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JANUARY 10 2024

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The Paper.

ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Cover Art by Rachel Mills



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P.9

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Run-Down

A recap of recent news



By The Paper. Staff

Improvements coming to South Valley park

Bernalillo County got \$410,000 from the State of New Mexico for upgrades to the Dolores Huerta Gateway Park. The improvements, which are part of the South Valley Main Street Program aim to spruce up a picnic area and build a new “gateway” structure, among other updates. There will also be improvements to the sidewalks and concrete fixtures in the area along with the addition of power outlets.

State pushes for water reuse rule

The New Mexico Environment Department’s Water Protection Division last month petitioned the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) to consider a new rule to protect the state’s surface and groundwater while also encouraging water reuse to help combat climate change.

“The reality of water in New Mexico is changing in light of extreme drought,” said Water Protection Division Director John Rhoderick in a statement. “Taking steps now to safely encourage new projects to recycle our water supply is vital as we build a more resilient water system for generations to come.”

More information about the rule can be found at www.env.nm.gov/water-reuse/.

Teachers set to receive money for mentorship

The New Mexico Public Education Department received an \$8,000,000 federal grant that spans five years, as a part of a statewide effort to give teacher hopefuls a year’s worth of mentorship from veteran educators.

In a news release the education department said the grant program is part of Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham’s push to bolster teacher recruitment in the state.

Money for military artists

New Mexico Arts announced the winners of the 2024 Arts and Military Mini Grant program. The grants, according to a Department of Cultural Affairs news release, will support art organizations and “veteran-focused organizations” help expand art opportunities for military veterans and those in active duty.

SouthWest Writer, Santa Fe Children’s Museum, Flamenco Works, New Mexico Veteran Art, are just a few of the 19 organizations chosen to receive these mini grants.

New overnight “receiving area” finished

The City of Albuquerque announced the launch of a “receiving area” for first responders at the Gateway Center.

City officials in a news release said the new addition will provide a place to take those in need of help when jail or the hospital is not the answer.

“Our city needs a place where first responders can take people to get resources no matter what time of day,” Mayor Tim Keller said in a statement.

According to the city, continual intake capabilities will not immediately be available, but by the end of the month, the facility should be able to accept people at any time.

County to pay landlords

Bernalillo County launched its Landlord Incentive Pilot Program in an effort to encourage property owners to rent out more homes to those who qualify for low income subsidies. The program is funded through June of this year and will reimburse qualified landlords for damages from tenants and financial losses from vacancies, according to a county news release. The county says the program will be evaluated through June to determine whether the program should go beyond the pilot period.

Weak in Review: Jan. 10

Quick hits on this week’s news bits



State Rep. Stefani Lord (R-Sandia Park) says she’ll sponsor a bill outlawing necrophilia.

1. Gross.
2. Cue NewsMax appearance.

Mayor Tim Keller says he’d like to see the Downtown strip club Knockouts permanently closed after a deadly shooting last month.

For those who need reminding, Knockouts is that place even your most disgusting friends avoid.

About a dozen hair stylists are taking part in Presbyterian Community Health’s Chair Care Trusted Messengers program to broach the subject of vaccines and their importance.

This is excellent news, because convos with our stylist have really been missing that extra touch of awkwardness.

Albuquerque gets its first taste of snow in 2024.

Thank God, because we were running out of things to talk about with our Chair Care Trusted Messengers.

Former Otero County Commissioner and frequent New Mexico punchline Couy Griffin wants the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn his ban from running for public office.

You take part in one insurrection, and suddenly you’re forever labeled an insurrectionist.

The new mayor of Los Ranchos is now named as both a plaintiff and defendant in a lawsuit over development in the village.

We hear he’s got a hell of a case against himself.

New Mexico turns 112.

So much for that birthday party at Knockouts we had planned.



An ABQ doctor, a police officer and several Target employees were all separately accused of stealing from the chain in the past few weeks.

What’s going on over there, Target?

New Mexico cannabis regulators are cracking down on businesses that violate state law.

Where were they when that one dealer tried to sell us a bag full of seeds and stems?

A stray New Year’s Eve celebratory bullet pierced a family’s roof.

Albuquerque: Where New Year’s Eve celebratory bullets are a thing.

The New Mexico Legislature will consider a ban on oil and gas drilling near schools.

We’re still crunching the numbers, but we’re guessing this happens way more than *checks notes* necrophilia.



Holidays for Foster Teens: CYFD Sends Kids to a Lockup with Cold “Cells” and Metal Beds

On Thanksgiving, CYFD sent foster children to a facility for violent youth. At Christmas, kids ran away.



The Sequoyah Adolescent Treatment Center as seen from above in a drone photo. (Nadav Soroker/Searchlight New Mexico)

By Ed Williams, Searchlight New Mexico

As the Thanksgiving holiday approached, the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department began making arrangements for a half-dozen foster kids who were living in the agency’s office buildings. What would be a comfortable place for them to spend the holiday, they wondered.

Their answer: a locked facility for boys with a history of violence and mental illness.

And so the department moved the foster kids to Sequoyah Adolescent Treatment Center in Albuquerque, where they would spend Thanksgiving in cell-like rooms with cinderblock walls.

“It was crazy,” said one of the teenagers who was sent to the facility for the holiday (his attorney asked that he remain anonymous to protect him from possible retaliation). He described a Thanksgiving dinner of undercooked chicken nuggets and canned vegetables served from the facility’s cafeteria, and a night spent in a cold cell with a metal bed bolted to a bare, blue-gray wall. He and the other foster youth were kept separate from the general population, but at one point he said some of the residents threw rocks at them.

“It’s supposed to be a day for you to spend with people you care about,” he said. “Instead they put us through hell.”

After Thanksgiving, some of the kids were moved back to the CYFD office building in Albuquerque — another placement that is considered inappropriate for foster children. As Christmas drew near, several of them ran away.

In response to questions from Searchlight New Mexico, CYFD said six foster youth were placed in a “cottage” at the Sequoyah facility over the Thanksgiving holiday, where they were supervised by CYFD staff. The department said it moved

the kids to Sequoyah to “ensure adequate space for them” and to make sure they were “comfortable.”

“Our dedicated staff work incredibly hard to ensure that children in our care over the holidays have a sense of security and normalcy,” CYFD spokesperson Jessica Preston said. “Our staff provide gifts for everyone in offices over the holiday season, and CYFD staff cook meals for children in CYFD care staying at the office.”

Unsuitable, unsafe placements

The decision to move foster kids to Sequoyah comes amid years of evidence that CYFD is routinely putting its most vulnerable children in inappropriate foster placements such as office buildings and youth homeless shelters, in violation of a landmark 2020 legal settlement.

“It is concerning that the State of New Mexico is punishing traumatized children who cannot live with their families by placing them in locked facilities that are meant for violent juveniles,” said Beth Hess, an attorney who has represented kids in foster care sent to inappropriate placements.

“Children should not be penalized because they don’t have family to take care of them over the holidays. Moving children into these types of facilities is seen as a punishment and will impact them both psychologically and emotionally, further adding to their trauma.”

It was not the first time that CYFD has placed foster youth in facilities built for adolescents with violent or criminal histories: In December 2021, the department temporarily moved a group of children from its office building to the Albuquerque Girls Reintegration Center, a former halfway house for recently released juvenile inmates. A sexual assault allegedly

occurred there between two foster youth five days before Christmas, according to a police investigation. Several such instances have also taken place among teenagers placed in offices and shelters, police records show.

Running from CYFD

After Thanksgiving, the boy who stayed at Sequoyah said he was among a group of teenagers slated to spend the winter holidays at CYFD’s Albuquerque office. Christmas can be an especially traumatizing time for survivors of abuse and neglect, a time when supportive and nurturing foster placements are all the more critical, child advocates say.

Between Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve 2023, CYFD had 22 children spending at least one night in an agency office, according to Preston — more kids in a single week than the department houses in offices in a month.

“Nobody wants to spend Christmas in an office building,” the boy said. As Christmas Eve drew near, he gathered what belongings he could and ran away. He said he spent Christmas alone on the streets. “They basically force you to run away,” he told Searchlight. “They’re screwing up every kid now.”

While he was on the run, three other kids ran from the CYFD office in Albuquerque, according to the agency.

“I’m alright,” the boy added. Given everything he’s already been through, this wasn’t such a big deal. He said he is now staying with friends and isn’t in imminent danger. “I’m just lucky I got some friends.”

Searchlight New Mexico is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news organization dedicated to investigative reporting in New Mexico. Read other stories at searchlightnm.org.



Voices From the Barrio

Monthly spoken word showcase **Voices From the Barrio** starts off the new year with a night of music and poetry featuring local rhymesmith **Freddy Flowpez**. Flowpez makes music to celebrate, empower and encourage positive social change worldwide. Open mic sign in begins at 6:30pm. Readings/performances start at **7pm**. Sopapilla Productions will be on hand filming for a future television broadcast. So bring a poem or two, an instrument and most importantly your open heart. If speaking behind the mic isn't your thing, just come chill and listen. It all goes down at **El Chante: Case de Cultura (804 Park Ave. SW)**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

Dance

Friday Night Square Dancing
7 - 9 PM Fridays Albuquerque
Square Dance Center 4915
Hawkins St NE

Exhibit

Colors That Speak Words/Phase
II 9am -4pm Indian Pueblo
Cultural Center 2401 12th Street
NW

IPCC's 43rd Annual Native
American Student Art Show:
Celebrating Our Pollinators 9am
- 4pm Indian Pueblo Cultural
Center 2401 12th Street NW

Games

Brain Gang Trivia 6-8 pm
Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec
Road Northeast

Miscellaneous

BernCo Animal Care Services
Vaccine and Microchip Clinic
9 am-12 pm Bernalillo Animal
Care and Resource Center 3001
Second St. SW

Bike Night 6-9 pm Sunday
Service Motor Company 2701 4th
Street NW

Music

Acoustic Showcase and Open
Mic Night 6-11:30 pm Hotel Zazz
3711 Central Ave NE

DHP Presents: Karaoke at
Voodoo Girl 7-10 pm Voodoo
Girl Pizza & Pints 1401 Second
St. NW

Hump Day Karaoke Show
6-10 pm Kilt Check Brewing
Company 4814 Hardware Dr. NE

Sadness, Madness, & Mayhem: A Haunted Folk Formal with Dust City Opera \$25-\$30 6:30-9 pm FUSION | 708 708 1st St NW

Reading

Animal Tales with the ABQ BioPark 10:30-11:30 am South Broadway Library 1025 Broadway SE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

Literature/Poetry

Voices of The Barrio: Freddy Flowpez 6:30-8:30 pm El Chante: Casa De Cultura 804 Park Ave SW

Music

Alex Maryol 7-9 pm Tractor Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE

Anima \$8 8:30-11:30 pm Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest

Concerts @ The Library: Bob Smith 2-3 pm Alamosa Library 6900 Gonzales Rd SW

Music on the Patio: Low Down Revival 6-9 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Songs Without Purpose \$22 7:30-9:30 pm Guild Cinema 3405 Central Ave NE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

Comedy

Jesus Trejo \$20-\$25 9:30-11 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

Jesus Trejo \$20-\$25 7-8:30 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

The Show - Live Comedy Improv \$12 8-9 pm The Box Performance Space 114 Gold Ave SW

Dance

Tablao Flamenco Albuquerque Dinner Show \$75-\$85 7-9 pm Hotel Albuquerque 800 Rio Grande Blvd NW

Discussion / Lecture

Science on Tap - Decrypting the Future: The ABCs of Blockchain, Crypto and NFT Space \$10 5:30-7 pm National Museum of Nuclear Science & History 601 Eubank Blvd SE

Music

360 House Sessions feat. Wyatt Lawson x Davy Jones 9 pm-2 am Effex NightClub 420 Central Avenue Southwest

Eryn Bent 6-8 pm Sadie's of New Mexico 6230 Fourth St. NW, Los Ranchos de

Goth Night & Dark Market: New Year, Same Goth 8-11 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

Keith Sweat \$60-\$105 8-9:30 pm Isleta Resort & Casino 11000 Broadway Blvd SE

Kevin Gates: Only the Generals Tour \$70 8-11 pm South Broadway Library 1025 Broadway SE

Know the Ledge \$5 8 pm-12 am Sister 407 Central Ave. NW

Lil Maru \$25-\$60 7-10 pm The Jam Spot 415 Central Ave NE

Reviva 8:30 pm-12:30 am Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest

Rudy Boy Duo 6-9 pm Albuquerque Distilling 5001 Central Ave NE Suite A5

Silver Sky Blues Band 7-9 pm Marble Brewery NE Heights 9904 Montgomery Blvd NE

Sports

3HL Ice Wolves vs. Texas Jr Brahmas \$10-\$15 6:30-9 pm Outpost Ice Arenas 9530 Tramway Blvd NE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Art

Art Night at the Motor Co. 6-8 pm Sunday Service Motor Company 2701 4th Street NW

Class / Workshop

Introduction to T'ai Chi Chih® (1 hour class) \$25 1-2 pm FUSION | 708 708 1st St NW

Comedy

Jesus Trejo \$20-\$25 7-8:30 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

Jesus Trejo \$20-\$25 9:30-11 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

Left on Read \$10 7-8 pm The Box Performance Space 114 Gold Ave SW

Mountain Coast: All Female Hip Hop Improv Comedy \$12-\$14 9:30-10:30 pm The Box Performance Space 114 Gold Ave SW

The Show - Live Comedy Improv \$12 8-9 pm The Box Performance Space 114 Gold Ave SW

Community

Shrinky Dink Shindig! 11:30 am-2:30 pm Color Wheel Toys 6855 4th St NW Ste D

Dance

Tablao Flamenco Albuquerque Dinner Show \$75-\$85 7-9 pm Hotel Albuquerque 800 Rio Grande Blvd NW

Wintertide Tea Dance \$30 1-3 pm Holiday Dance Studio 5200 Eubank Blvd. NE Suite D

Zuni Olla Maidens 12-1 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW

Exhibit

EXHIBIT/208 Walkthrough of 25th Anniversary Group Show with curator Kim Arthun 3-5 pm Exhibit/208 208 Broadway Blvd. SE

Family/Kids

IPCC's Family Story Time 1-2 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW

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GUILD cinema

François Ozon's **THE CRIME IS MINE**
Fri-Mon Jan 12-15 3:45, 6:00

UK/Filipino horror **RAGING GRACE**
Fri-Mon Jan 12-15 8:15

Studio Ghibli's **SPIRITED AWAY (2001)**
Fri Jan 12 10:30pm

Animal abuse & domestic violence:
THE DEADLY LINK Sat Jan 13 1:00pm

Joe Dante's **THE HOWLING (1981)**
Sat Jan 13 10:30pm

Studio Ghibli's **PRINCESS MONONOKE**
Sun Jan 14 1:00pm

Godard's sci-fi noir **ALPHAVILLE (1965)**
Tue-Wed Jan 16-17 3:15, 8:00

GODARD CINEMA + his final film work
Tue-Wed Jan 16-17 5:30

THE DECLINE OF SOUTHWESTERN CIVILIZATION Thu Jan 18 6:00, 8:30

3405 Central NE 255-1848 guildcinema.com

Food Pancake Breakfast w/ Anastasia Preview Performance \$8-\$12 8:30-10:30 am The Box Performance Space 114 Gold Ave SW	Frankly Scarlet 7-9 pm Enchanted Circle Brewing 6001 San Mateo Blvd NE Glass Anvil 5-8 pm Effingbar and Grill 5300 Sequoia Rd. NW	Music - Classical NMMEA All State Festival Concert- Guitar and Orchestras \$7-\$14 9 am-5 pm Popejoy Hall 203 Cornell Dr	Community Somatic Spa \$70 2-4 pm FUSION 708 708 1st St NW Somatic Spa \$70 6-8 pm FUSION 708 708 1st St NW
Health & Wellness Tierra Sagrada Yoga \$10 10:30-11:30 am Orpheum Arts Space 500 Second St. SW Apt 21	Leo Kottke \$42-\$49 7-10 pm KiMo Theatre 423 Central Avenue NW Saturday Night Techno Affair \$10 9 pm-2 am Historic El Rey Theatre 622 Central Ave SW	Sports 3HL Ice Wolves vs. Texas Jr Brahmas \$10-\$15 6:30-9 pm Outpost Ice Arenas 9530 Tramway Blvd NE	Dance Zuni Olla Maidens 12-1 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW
Miscellaneous \$6-Fill-A-Bag Sale 10 am-4 pm Main Library 501 Copper Ave NW	Strange Mix 8 pm-12 am Moonlight Lounge 120 Central Ave SW	Chilly Willy 5K/10K/Half Marathon \$40-\$65 8:30 am-12 pm Mariposa Basin Park 4900 Kachina St. NW	Drink VARA Spirits Release Party \$10 2-6 pm Vara Wines 315 Alameda Blvd NE
Music Barry Chabala/Muni Kulasinghe/ Clara Byom/Rosie Hutchinson 7-9 pm Orpheum Arts Space 500 Second St. SW Apt 21	The Delta Bombers \$20 8 pm-12:30 am Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest	New Mexico Bullsnares vs Southwest Desertcats \$5 3-6 pm George I. Sanchez Collaborative Community School 4050 118th St SW	Film Media Experience Project presents MXP - Rebirth 6-9 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest
Benny Bassett 7-9 pm Tractor Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE	The Ukuladies 7-9 pm Flock of Moons Brewing Company 111 Harvard Dr. SE	SUNDAY, JANUARY 14	
Famous on the Weekend Presents GENESIS \$5 8-11:30 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest	Wade Bowen \$15-\$169 6-9 pm The Dirty Bourbon Dance Hall & Saloon 9800 Montgomery Blvd NE	Comedy One Liner Madness \$15 7:30-11:30 pm Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest	Food Mean Girls Brunch 10 am-3 pm Damacios Bar & Tapas 722 Central Ave. SW

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JANUARY 21-27, 2024

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PUBLIC MAGNET SCHOOLS

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

HOME SCHOOLING

ONLINE LEARNING

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Music

Crowded Table- New Mexico Peace Choir in concert 3 pm Central United Methodist Church 201 University Blvd NE

Music on the Patio: Seth Hoffman 4-7 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

San Holo Presents: Existential Dance Music \$25-\$125 7-11:30 pm The Mine Shaft Tavern 2846 Hwy. 14, Madrid

Performance

Chatter Sunday \$5-\$17 10:30 am-12:30 pm Chatter 912 3rd St NW

Sports

3HL Ice Wolves vs. Texas Jr Brahmas \$10-\$15 2-4:30 pm Outpost Ice Arenas 9530 Tramway Blvd NE

Six Pack Series FUN'draiser 5K \$10 11 am-1:30 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Comedy

Ariel Elias \$15 7:30-9 pm Dry Heat Comedy Club 521 Central Ave NW STE G

Community

Somatic Spa \$70 10 am-12 pm FUSION | 708 708 1st St NW

Somatic Spa \$70 6-8 pm FUSION | 708 708 1st St NW

Somatic Spa \$70 2-4 pm FUSION | 708 708 1st St NW

Games

Brain Gang Trivia 6-8 pm Canteen Taproom 417 Tramway Blvd NE

Music

Old Time Jam Band 7-10 pm Tractor Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE

Performance

African Dance Class with Live Drummers \$7 6-7 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest

Tuesday, January 16

Games

Brain Gang Trivia 7-9 pm Lizard Tail Industrial 8351 Columbia Dr. NE

Music

Toni Morgan & Got Soul 6-8:30 pm Steel Bender Brewery 8305 Second St. NW, Los Ranchos de

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

Family/Kids

Stories & Music In the Sky, Art Fun: Dot Art 11 am-12 pm Anderson Abruzzo International Balloon Museum 9201 Balloon Museum Dr NE

Stories & Music In the Sky, Art Fun: Dot Art 9:30-10:30 am Anderson Abruzzo International Balloon Museum 9201 Balloon Museum Dr NE

Games

Brain Gang Trivia 6-8 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Miscellaneous

Bike Night 6-9 pm Sunday Service Motor Company 2701 4th Street NW

Speed Dating (ages 21-39) For Singles by Pre-Dating 9-11 pm Hollow Spirits 1324 1st ST NW

Music

Acoustic Showcase and Open Mic Night 6-11:30 pm Hotel Zazz 3711 Central Ave NE

Alash \$30 7:30-9:30 pm FUSION 700-708 1st St NW

DHP Presents: Karaoke at Voodoo Girl 7-10 pm Voodoo Girl Pizza & Pints 1401 Second St. NW

Going Dark \$10 8:30-11:30 pm Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest

Hump Day Karaoke Show 6-10 pm Kilt Check Brewing Company 4814 Hardware Dr. NE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

Exhibit

Third Thursday: News for the People 5-8:30 pm Albuquerque Museum 2000 Mountain Road NW

Miscellaneous

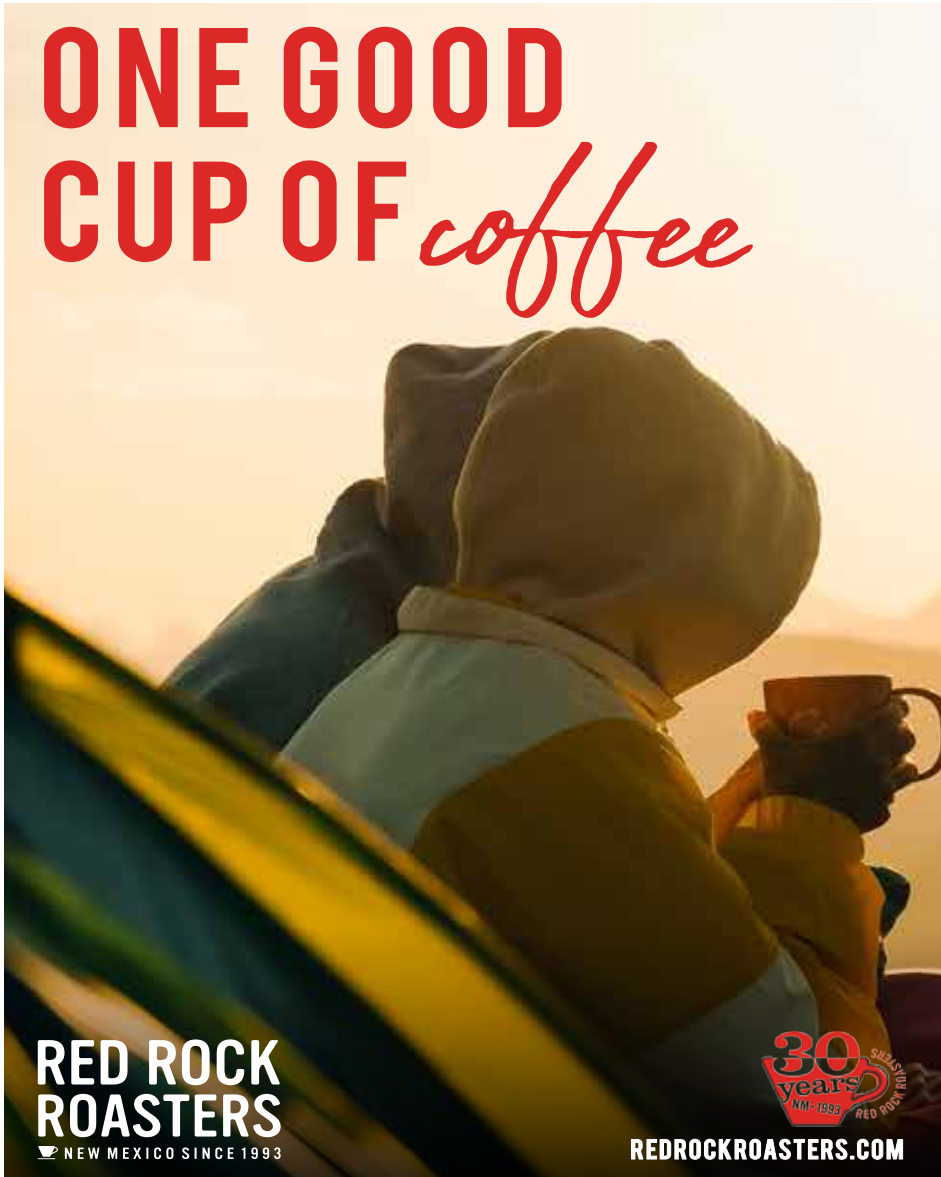
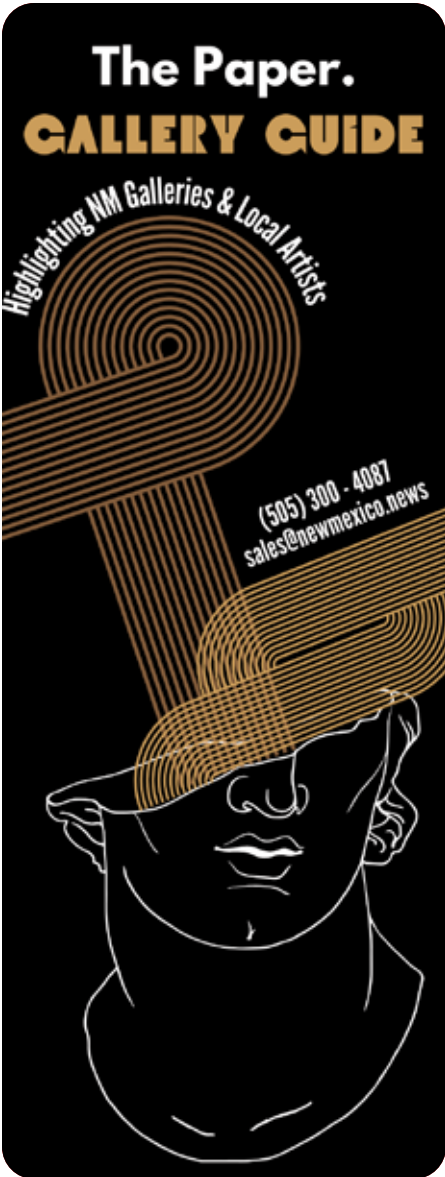
Healing Together: Building Community Through Native + Black Storytelling 4-8 pm Explora 1701 Mountain Rd NW

Music

Castle Doctor \$8 8:30-11:30 pm Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest

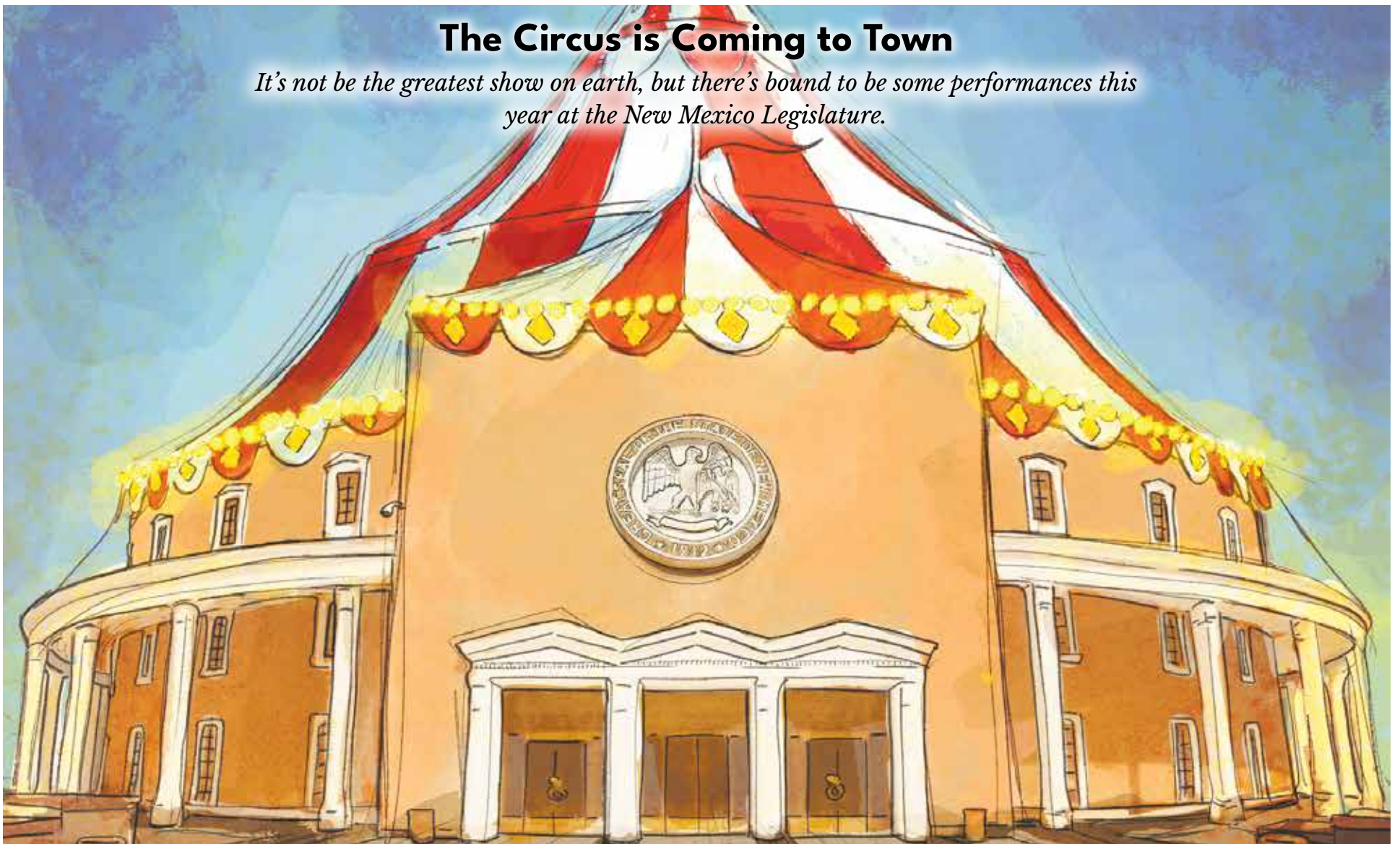
Disco at the Momo w/ DJ Clout 7-10 pm Monterey Motel 2402 Central Ave. SW

Dust City Opera Duo 5-7 pm Rudolfo Anaya North Valley Library 7704-B 2nd NW



The Circus is Coming to Town

It's not be the greatest show on earth, but there's bound to be some performances this year at the New Mexico Legislature.



By Andy Lyman, The Paper.

Come one, come all, step right up, the show's about to begin. Stakes will soon enough be driven into the ground and Santa Fe will be crawling with out-of-towners. Some will be there to watch, others will spend 30 days in the spotlight. Although the actual circus doesn't come around as often these days, more than 100 state legislators who are tasked with doing the people's work will fill the two rings that are the House and Senate floors. There won't be popcorn or peanuts and families filling grandstands will be replaced with lobbyists and engaged residents populating the galleries overlooking the action.

It's easy for anyone who has watched our state's legislative proceedings unfold—even once—to see things through a cynical lens. The phrase “pomp and circumstance” and the term “theatrics” get thrown around a lot by experienced legislative observers and participants alike. But according to some veterans of the show we call a representative democracy, much of what seems superfluous and performative is sometimes necessary. Plus, this year's session will last for only 30 days, so mariachi, flamenco performances and widespread glad-handing will, in theory, be kept to a minimum. Still, it can be difficult for engaged constituents to stomach the constant foot-dragging that ultimately leads to fast-paced, late-night votes during the last several days. It's also hard not to get wrapped up in the theatrics that come with the sound bite-filled debates. The advice for those of us tracking the session from those

who have been down this road, year after year, remains the same though: Check your expectations at the door—or Zoom meeting—and remember this year's focus is the budget—mostly.

All about the benjamins

Despite how things appear, particularly during the first week, New Mexico lawmakers really do have passing legislation in mind. To the untrained eye though, it sure does seem like our elected officials spend most of their time offering up congratulations to their hometown sports teams, introducing guests and singing songs (yes, this actually happens). The Legislature, not counting special sessions, meets every year. But thanks to the New Mexico Constitution, every other year is devoted to budgetary matters and lasts 30 days instead of 60. Common sense might suggest that a short session with a limited scope would streamline the process, but governors are also allowed to add other issues. This year, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham has signaled that she also wants some work done in terms of gun control. As the proverbial legislative train chugs forward, she can add more issues to “the call,” especially if enough lawmakers clamor for it.

But in the end, the most important thing this year is to come up with a budget that can pass both the House and Senate and get a signature from Lujan Grisham. The governor made it clear last week that she wants to use a sizable chunk of her

proposed \$10.5 billion budget to bolster the state's public education programs. But as those of a certain age learned from *Schoolhouse Rock*, there's a whole other branch of government that has a say in how much money gets spent and how much of it gets stashed away for lean times.

Speaker of the House Javier Martínez, a Democrat who represents a section of southwest Albuquerque, tells *The Paper* trying to control the growth of this year's “record-breaking budget” while also coming up with something the governor is willing to sign is just one of the needles the House and Senate will have to thread.

“What we're attempting to do is honor the goals and division of the executive, while also ensuring that we keep our legislative purview over the budgeting process,” Martínez says. “So that's always a tension point, regardless of who the governor is.”

Another possible tension point that might further perpetuate the song and dance of the Legislature is that the City of Albuquerque will also have its hands out for money. Other municipalities around the state will do the same, but as Martínez puts it, Albuquerque is “the economic engine of the state” and Mayor Tim Keller's administration is asking for more than \$160 million worth of funding from lawmakers. About \$80 million of that would go towards bolstering public safety and expanding the city's Real Time Crime Center.

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“Our city is heading in the right direction,” Keller said in a statement a few weeks ago. “This is the time to double down on the investments we’re making so that we can continue to make progress toward a safer, better place to live for Albuquerque families.”

Martínez says he’s confident lawmakers who represent the Albuquerque area can successfully work with the city to come up with at least part of what’s being requested, but probably not all of it.

“Will we deliver everything that everybody’s asking for? I mean, probably not, just right off the bat, but we will certainly work with [Keller] and his administration to prioritize the needs that we can meet,” Martínez says.

Martínez chalks the Keller administration’s high-dollar asks up to a generations-long trend of asking for more than what’s needed.

“That’s a running joke, unfortunately: If you ask for 40, you’ll get 20,” Martínez says. “I think that the mayor and his team have done a really good job of framing the needs of the city in making those legislative asks and requests. As is the case, the asks far outpace what’s available.”

But Martínez does agree the city needs a cash investment, especially, he says, after riding along with Albuquerque Fire Rescue through some of the most poverty stricken parts of the city, where residents are grappling with homelessness and substance abuse. He says he witnessed open drug use and repeated burn marks along walls left over from bonfires.

“There’s a lot of work that needs to

happen in the state with regard to behavioral and mental health, with regard to addressing drug use disorders, with regard to rebuilding our behavioral health network,” he says. “That’s going to be a generational effort. This isn’t going to be solved in one session, but we have to start today, if we want to see results in the future.”

Like trapeze artists, lawmakers will have to calculate their moves in order to land the trick that is coming up with legislation popular enough to pass both chambers, while also avoiding the dreaded veto pen. But also like a circus, all of the contorting, at the end of the day, is for the audience—or in this case, the people of New Mexico.

“I think over the course of the next two, three weeks, four weeks, you’re going to see a process that will be tough at times, it’ll be difficult at times, but I also foresee a process that, at the end of the day, will really deliver for the people, which is really what we’re here to do,” Martínez says.

Direct your attention

Most big top spectacles aim to keep audiences attention, especially when the next act needs to prepare and the same goes for legislative sessions. Regardless of the length of each session, legislative staff need some time to pore over bills. Even when bills are ready to be picked apart by senators and representatives, there’s still the committee process, Matt Muñoz, a former lobbyist for the University of New Mexico, tells *The Paper*.

“There’s not a lot of bills that are ready to be heard on the floor. They have to go through committees and most bills get two committees,” Muñoz says. “By the time those first two weeks are over, that’s when the bills are finally getting out of those committees and making their way their to their respective chambers, and getting set to cross the chambers to the House and the Senate.”

Beyond that, he says, there’s also value in welcoming constituents from all corners of the state to see the democratic process first-hand.

“It looks like they’re wasting time, but I think there’s things that are important: The 4 H day, all of those little advocacy groups that have their days, that get to come up and bring people who never go to the Legislature,” Muñoz says. “They get to experience it and so I think that slow pace allows people to experience it in a way that they wouldn’t in other places.”

Unlike expert jugglers, animal tamers and magicians though, elected officials usually have to perfect their work in public and over a number of sessions, which can turn even the most optimistic observers into seething cynics. Tapping into the state’s permanent fund to increase spending on early childhood education is an often-touted example of how long it can take to perfect proposals and cannabis legalization is another. Both proposals went through years of failed attempts and the latter is probably still on the table for some tweaks this year.

Muñoz cites words of wisdom from former Representative Jim Smith, a Republican who represented a sizable chunk of the East Mountains, who Muñoz says was “one of those Republicans who can work both sides.” Smith

also knew the value of persistence, Muñoz says.

“The first year, you realize what the really big problems are, the second year, you realize what the small problems are and then the third year, you probably can get it through to the finish line,” he says. “I think that holds true on so many issues that are out there, and I think that’ll hold true on some of these bills that are coming up this year for the first time.”

Coincidentally, Rep. Stefani Lord, (R-Sandia Park), who took Smith’s spot when he decided not to run again, announced that she’ll sponsor a bill to outlaw necrophilia, which might end up being one of those issues that takes more than one session to materialize as a law, even if it garners national attention and leads to talking heads questioning why it’s not already illegal.

While the governor has to pave the way for any legislation that doesn’t pertain to the state’s budget, former state Sen. Dede Feldman, who represented a northwest section of Albuquerque, notes that there’s nothing stopping lawmakers from introducing “whatever they want, like a bill on necrophilia, and get some publicity for it.”

“But it probably, unless it’s a priority of the governor, will not be seriously considered as it’s not on the call,” Feldman says.

A bill to outlaw bestiality breezed through the process in 2023—a session when anything was on the table. Lujan Grisham can still add the topic of necrophilia to the list of approved non-budgetary issues, but until then—and even if it comes to a vote—it will likely serve as fodder and political ammunition against anyone who might question the specifics or unintended consequences of Lord’s bill. As Feldman points out, both House and Senate members are up for re-election later this year, which will probably add to the show.

“There will be partisan dances going on in the Legislature to try to get your opponents recorded in unfavorable votes,” Feldman says. “For example, Democrats who vote for a gun control measure, but are from northern New Mexico or southern New Mexico might get hit with a mailing saying how soft they are on crime and how they don’t believe in the Second Amendment.”

Feldman’s advice for legislative onlookers to avoid getting bogged down by side shows is to keep their collective eyes on the main attraction, which is how the state will squirrel away or spend its surplus.

“Don’t get distracted by the flashes in the pan that, whether they pass or not, are kind of inconsequential, compared to the question of: Are we investing our surplus wisely?”

The legislative circus starts Jan. 16 and runs through Feb. 15. The show is free, not counting the cost of travel and time spent waiting for committee meetings and floor sessions to start. A full list of legislation introduced this year can be found at www.nmlegis.gov/Legislation/Legislation_List.



Speaker of the House/
Ringmaster Javier
Martínez

By Sara Atencio-Gonzales, The Paper.

One-liner jokes are the basic building blocks of modern comedy. There are no special gizmos or gadgets, just a simple, concise joke with a powerful punchline.

Comedians such as the late Mitch Hedberg, who once quipped, “I used to do drugs. I still do, but I used to, too,” make it look easy, but hitting a perfect one-liner to get the crowd going can be a challenge for even the most seasoned comics in the business.

Nearly five dozen Albuquerque comedians are taking on that challenge by participating in the 2nd Annual One Liner Madness competition. The competition is a fast-paced night of comedy where 64 comedians will go head-to-head in a bracket-style, single-elimination, one-liner joke tournament.

“Kind of like March Madness, we go from 64 Comics down to one comic in 90 minutes,” says Sarah Kennedy, Co-Owner of Dry Heat Comedy Club.

The fate of those comics will be in the hands of the audience,

making things that much more nerve-racking.

Even though the One Liner Madness competition is still new to the Land of Enchantment, it originated years ago in New York City. The show, which is a regular staple of the New York comedy scene and has run in festivals all over the country, was created by LA-based comedian, screenwriter, and producer Emily Winter who has appeared on Nickelodeon, *The New York Times*, NPR’s Ask Me Another, The Today Show and Netflix’s What A Joke Festival.

Dry Heat has partnered with Winter to bring the show to the Launchpad. Kennedy says her winning a 2018 One Liner Madness competition in New York helped make personal connections there.

“Since then, we’ve become good friends with the producers of it,” says Kennedy.

Kennedy says based on last year’s turnout, she expects space to fill up quickly.

“Last year, it sold out, and people were pouring out into the streets,” she says. “People should get their tickets as soon as

One Line, One Winner

Dry Heat Comedy Club is bringing back its one-liner competition



(Diego Martinez for Dry Heat Comedy Club)

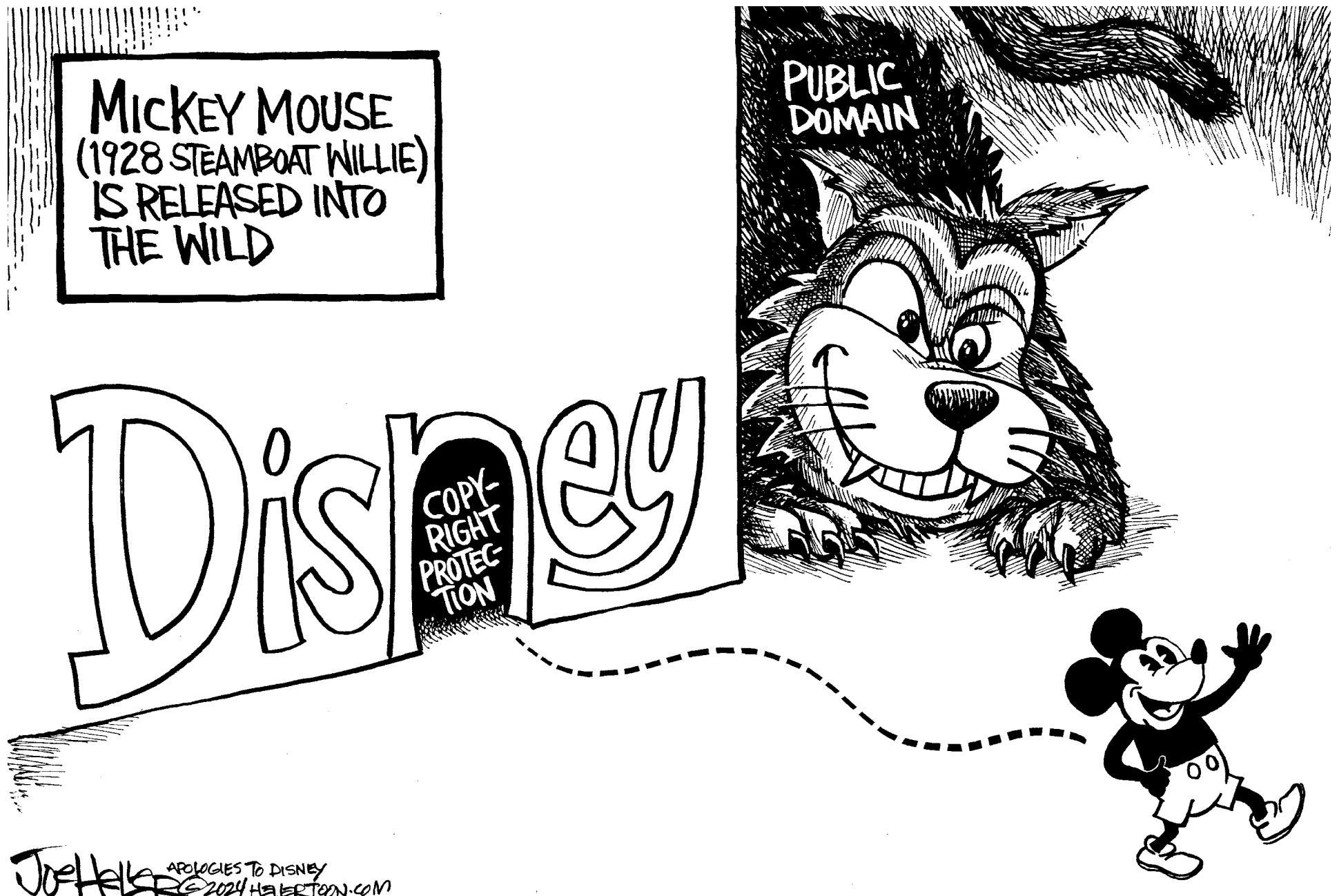
possible so that they don’t miss this year’s show.”

Even though tickets can be purchased at the door for \$20, Kennedy says the smart move is to snag one online at dryheatcomedyclub.com for \$15 in order to ensure a spot in the

audience before it sells out.

Kennedy says she hopes to bring the One Liner Madness back year after year.

“Ideally, for us, we would get to do it every single year because we love getting to work with the Launchpad,” she says.



Joe Hall
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Regulators Mount Up

State pot regulators are cracking down on violations



(Cannabis Training University at Wikimedia Commons)

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

New Mexico's cannabis regulators are stepping up enforcement actions and holding bad players accountable. Officials say they've revoked the licenses of two cannabis producers and are considering penalizing a handful of others.

Last week the New Mexico's Cannabis Control Division (CCD), which is under the state's Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD), announced it had revoked the licenses of two Torrance County marijuana producers: Bliss Farm and Native American Agricultural Development Company. According to authorities, these are the fifth and sixth revocations ordered by the division.

"The illicit activity conducted at both of these farms undermines the good work that many cannabis businesses are doing across the state," said Clay Bailey, Acting Superintendent of the RLD, in a news release. "The excessive amount of illegal cannabis plants and other serious violations demonstrates a blatant disregard for public health and safety, and for the law."

According to authorities, CCD compliance officers found a total of 17 violations at Bliss Farm while inspecting the producer. Included in these infractions was the production of cannabis plants "far exceeding" the allowable number under the state's Cannabis Regulation Act (CRA), failure to utilize the state's mandatory track and trace system, unpermitted structures, lack of scales for proper product measurements, lack of a pest management plan and unsanitary conditions. The producer was also accused of having no training materials onsite for employees and no food handler's cards.

Compliance officers reported the number of plants onsite and evidence of a recent harvest indicated that the producer had come into possession of the plants through illicit means.

The CCD filed a "notice of contemplated action" against Bliss Farm in August. During an October hearing, the producer's attorney claimed the violations had been fixed, but further investigations from authorities

allegedly revealed no evidence that steps had been taken to remedy the situation.

Compliance officers said they found eight violations at Native American Agricultural Development Company (NAADC), including exceeding the allowable number of cannabis plants, improper security measures, no chain of custody procedures and "ill-maintained grounds with trash and pests throughout."

As with Bliss Farm, compliance officers reported finding evidence of a recent harvest with no sign that the producer had entered the plants into the state's track and trace system.

The producer was given an opportunity to explain the violations during an October hearing, where a hearing officer decided to revoke NAADC's license and impose a fine.

"Compliance within the industry is the CCD's main priority and our office is committed to ensuring New Mexicans have access to safe cannabis products," said CCD Director Todd Stevens in a statement. "The team worked diligently on both of these cases to determine the appropriate action for violations at a scale we hadn't seen before. I hope this serves as a reminder to those who might be violating the laws and rules the state has put forth."

Stevens has said that compliance is his number one priority.

Last week, the CCD filed a Notice of Contemplated Action against Santa Fe-based manufacturer High 5 Edibles, accusing the company of employing a minor under the age of 21 and failing to provide relevant documentation of the employees' age. The CCD says High 5 Edibles tried to cover up the violation by providing the documentation of a separate person above the age of 21 and suggesting that they were the one working at the site.

In November, the CCD filed a Notice of Contemplated Action against Golden Roots for allegedly continuing to operate a full 10 days after having its license revoked. The company lost its license the previous month after CCD staffers found evidence that the business was selling illicit products.

The division was tipped off when

the company requested to enter mature, harvested, dried cannabis plants into their track and trace system after only being licensed for two months. It can take up to six months for a cannabis plant to mature and up to two additional months to harvest and dry it.

In an email to *The Paper*, Stevens says that the division will continue enforcing the state's marijuana rules.

"The Cannabis Control Division performed over 1,000 inspections last year and is continuing to perform random inspections and follow up on complaints," he says. "We remain committed to doing what is necessary in the interest of protecting the public from potentially unsafe products and respecting the work our rule-abiding licensees are doing by holding those who violate the Cannabis Regulation Act accountable."

In October, the RLD called on New Mexico's lawmakers to give the division the authority to confiscate marijuana from producers that the state has reason to believe could be illicit. During a Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee meeting, former RLD Superintendent Linda Trujillo asked lawmakers, "Even if we did have the authority to confiscate them, what would we do with it?"

New Mexico State Police Chief W. Troy Weisler told the committee that cannabis businesses that sell illicit products face little if any threat of criminal prosecution under current state laws and asked that explicit penalties be added to the state's Cannabis Regulation Act (CRA).

State Sen. Katy Duhigg tells *The Paper* that she is currently working on a bill that will be introduced this legislative session that will address these issues. She says the bill will fix it so that regulators can confiscate illicit materials during an investigation and destroy those materials based on a court order if they're found to be illegal.

The bill will also increase penalties for selling illicit products or trafficking out-of-state marijuana as a way to punish bad actors for breaking the rules while discouraging others from attempting it in the first place.



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

Johns Hopkins to Study 10,000 Weed Users

The latest in cannabis news

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

Researchers at Johns Hopkins University will track 10,000 medical cannabis patients for over a year to analyze the therapeutic efficacy of cannabis therapy.

The study is being funded by a five-year, \$10 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) as part of a larger Cannabis and Health Research Initiative.

The researchers are looking to create a system for identifying medicinal cannabis users in electronic medical records, so their data can be compared with non-users. They also plan to create a database of education materials.

“We hope to provide some starting points for understanding what types of products may or may not be helpful and what types of products may be more risky for use in certain populations or for certain therapeutic purposes,” said study co-creator Ryan Vandrey in a news release.

The database will include the chemical composition of different cannabis products, data on delivery methods, interactions with other medications and dosage.

The team says the study will provide data for policy-makers as well as researchers developing clinical marijuana trials.

Poll: Soldiers Support VA Pot Recommendations

An Ohio State University survey found that non-military personnel, veterans and their family members support allowing U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) doctors to recommend medical marijuana and psychedelic therapies as treatment options.

The survey asked participants from the American Population Panel whether they believed that marijuana or psychedelics can be an effective treatment for various medical conditions. The group of 1,168 participants consisted of 315 active and veteran military personnel, 426 military family members and 427 non-military-involved individuals.

They were also asked if they believed that a doctor should be able to recommend pot or psychedelics and whether it depends on if the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved those drugs. Finally, it asked if VA doctors should be allowed to recommend them.

The researchers found that a strong majority in each of the three groups supported allowing VA doctor recommendations for medical weed and psychedelics—79 percent of soldiers, 92 percent of family and 90 percent of non-military participants said VA doctors should

be able to recommend medical marijuana while 64 percent of soldiers, 78 percent of family and 76 percent of non-military participants said VA doctors should be able to recommend psychedelics.

Science Catching Up With Weed

There have been more than 32,000 scientific papers on cannabis published in the last decade, according to a new report.

Cannabis advocacy group NORML says the study of marijuana has become more popular in the last decade. According to an analysis by the group, researchers worldwide published over 4,000 cannabis-specific papers in 2023 alone.

“Despite claims by some that marijuana has yet to be subject to adequate scientific scrutiny, scientists’ interest in studying cannabis has increased exponentially in recent years,” said NORML Deputy Director Paul Armentano in a news release. The group analyzed PubMed entries and found over 45,900 scientific papers on marijuana dating back to the year 1840.

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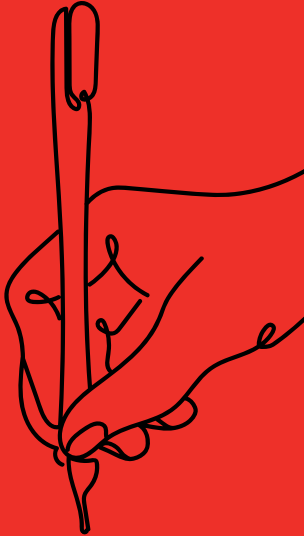
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The Paper.

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

Week of January 10

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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Why do birds sing? They must be expressing their joy at being alive, right? And in some cases, they are trying to impress and attract potential mates. Ornithologists tell us that birds are also staking out their turf by chirping their melodies. Flaunting their vigor is a sign to other birds of how strong and commanding they are. In accordance with astrological omens, I invite you Aries humans to sing more than ever before in 2024. Like birds, you have a mandate to boost your joie de vivre and wield more authority. Here are 10 reasons why singing is good for your health: tinyurl.com/HealthySinging

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Which zodiac sign is most likely to have a green thumb? Who would most astrologers regard as the best gardener? Who would I call on if I wanted advice on when to harvest peaches, how to love and care for roses as they grow, or how to discern which weeds might be helpful and useful? The answer, according to my survey, is Taurus. And I believe you Bulls will be even more fecund than usual around plants in 2024. Even further, I expect you to be extra fertile and creative in every area of your life. I hereby dub you Maestro of the Magic of Germination and Growth.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Research I've found suggests that 70 percent of us have experienced at least one traumatic event in our lives. But I suspect the percentage is higher. For starters, everyone has experienced the dicey expulsion from the warm, nurturing womb. That's usually not a low-stress event. The good news, Gemini, is that now and then there come phases when we have more power than usual to heal from our traumas. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, the coming months will be one of those curative times for you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): At their best, Libras foster vibrant harmony that energizes social situations. At their best, Scorpios stimulate the talents and beauty of those they engage with. Generous Leos and Sagittarians inspire enthusiasm in others by expressing their innate radiance. Many of us may get contact highs from visionary, deep-feeling Pisceans. In 2024, Cancerian, I believe you can call on all these modes as you brighten and nurture the people in your sphere—even if you have no Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Leo, or Pisces influences in your astrological chart.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Here are my wishes for you in 2024. 1. I hope you will rigorously study historical patterns in your life story. I hope you will gather robust insights into the rhythms and themes of your amazing journey. 2. You will see clearly what parts of your past are worth keeping and which are better outgrown and left behind. 3. You will come to a new appreciation of the heroic quest you have been on. You will feel excited about how much further your quest can go. 4. You will feel gratitude for the deep inner sources that have been guiding you all these years. 5. You will be pleased to realize how much you have grown and ripened.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Virgo author Eduardo Galeano mourned how our institutions condition us to divorce our minds from our hearts and our bodies from our souls. Even sadder, many of us deal with these daunting schisms by becoming numb to them. The good news, Virgo, is that I expect 2024 to be one of the best times ever for you to foster reconciliation between the split-off parts of yourself. Let's call this the Year of Unification. May you be inspired to create both subtle and spectacular fusions of your fragmented parts. Visualize your thoughts and feelings weaving together in elegant harmony. Imagine your material and spiritual needs finding common sources of nourishment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): According to ancient Greek myth, the half-divine hero Heracles consulted the Oracle of Delphi for guidance. He was assigned to perform 12 daunting feats, most of which

modern people would regard as unethical, like killing and stealing. There was one labor that encouraged integrity, though. Heracles had to clean the stables where over a thousand divine cattle lived. The place hadn't been scrubbed in 30 years! As I meditated on your hero's journey in the coming months, Libra, I concluded that you'd be wise to begin with a less grandiose version of Heracles' work in the stables. Have fun as you cheerfully tidy up everything in your life! By doing so, you will earn the power to experience many deep and colorful adventures in the coming months.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I will name two taboos I think you should break in 2024. The first is the theory that you must hurt or suppress yourself to help others. The second is that you must hurt or suppress others to benefit yourself. Please scour away any delusion you might have that those two strategies could genuinely serve you. In their place, substitute these hypotheses: 1. Being good to yourself is the best way to prepare for helping others. 2. Being good to others is the best way to benefit yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "Doubt has killed more dreams than failure ever will," says Sagittarian author Suzy Kassem. Many of us have had the experience of avoiding a quest for success because we are too afraid of being defeated or demoralized. "Loss aversion" is a well-known psychological concept that applies when we are so anxious about potential loss that we don't pursue the possible gain. In my astrological estimation, you Centaurs should be especially on guard against this inhibiting factor in 2024. I am confident you can rise above it, but to do so, you must be alert for its temptation—and eager to summon new reserves of courage.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In 2024, I predict you will be blessed with elegant and educational expansion—but also challenged by the possibility of excessive, messy expansion. Soulful magnificence could vie for your attention with exorbitant extravagance. Even as you are offered valuable novelties that enhance your sacred and practical quests, you may be tempted with lesser inducements you don't really need. For optimal results, Capricorn, I urge you to avoid getting distracted by irrelevant goodies. Usher your fate away from pretty baubles and towards felicitous beauty.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Some people feel that "wealth" refers primarily to financial resources. If you're wealthy, it means you have a lot of money, luxurious possessions, and lavish opportunities to travel. But wealth can also be measured in other ways. Do you have an abundance of love in your life? Have you enjoyed many soulful adventures? Does your emotional intelligence provide rich support for your heady intelligence? I bring this up, Aquarius, because I believe 2024 will be a time when your wealth will increase. The question for you to ruminate on: How do you define wealth?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "No one can build you the bridge on which you, and only you, must cross the river of life," said philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche. Here's my response to that bold declaration: It's utterly WRONG! No one in the history of the world has ever built anything solely by their own efforts, let alone a bridge to cross the river of life. Even if you are holed up in your studio working on a novel, painting, or invention, you are absolutely dependent on the efforts of many people to provide you with food, water, electricity, clothes, furniture, and all the other goodies that keep you functioning. It's also unlikely that anyone could create anything of value without having received a whole lot of love and support from other humans. Sorry for the rant, Pisces. It's a preface for my very positive prediction: In 2024, you will have substantial help in building your bridge across the river of life.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Sudden gush
- 6 Defeat decisively
- 10 Rapids ride
- 14 "District 9" figure
- 15 Top-of-the-line
- 16 Rights org.
- 17 Gravy no-no
- 18 Kind of knockout
- 20 Intrinsic nature
- 22 They're followed
- 23 First to arrive
- 25 Grazing spot
- 26 Shirt part
- 29 Put back on the job
- 31 Something to tie up
- 33 Leave in the
- 36 Allen of "Candid Camera"
- 37 Henhouse sounds
- 40 Unadorned
- 41 Web site?
- 43 Coyote or wolf
- 45 Exploratory
- 48 Ram's mate
- 49 Duffer's dream
- 51 Scottish tourist draw
- 53 Retreat
- 55 Showed some teeth
- 59 Occurring every third year
- 61 ____ two-shoes
- 62 Mortgage
- 63 Program lines
- 64 Gentle push
- 65 Football gain

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- 66 They may be split
- 67 Mighty mount

DOWN

- 1 Store sign
- 2 Furthermore
- 3 Goals
- 4 Conical dwelling
- 5 Catch in a trap
- 6 Lester Holt show
- 7 Caviar
- 8 Mom's brothers
- 9 Command
- 10 Police action
- 11 Pick up speed

- 12 Highway warning
- 13 Oklahoma city
- 19 Regarding birth
- 21 Move sneakily
- 24 Very detailed
- 26 ____ Romeo (Italian auto)
- 27 Easy victory
- 28 New England capital
- 30 Marching band member
- 32 Hubbub
- 34 Cornfield invader
- 35 Roll call response

- 38 Chips in a can
- 39 Dissolve
- 42 Panama port
- 44 Architects' output
- 46 Show the door
- 47 Netflix category
- 49 With precision
- 50 Papal court
- 52 Aardvark feature
- 54 Give for a while
- 56 Lymph bump
- 57 Cruise flick, "____ of Tomorrow"
- 58 Like Easter eggs
- 60 Put two and two together

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D	E	E	T	S		S	D	N	E		D	R	V	A
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Solution to Crossword:



"I'M SO GRATEFUL I NEVER STOPPED SEARCHING!"

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!**

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