

The Paper.

FREE
MAY 15, 2024
VOLUME 05 | ISSUE 20

ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS



2024 PRIMARY ELECTION GUIDE

Cover by Rachel Mills



FRIDAY, MAY 24 | 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

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Good Trouble, LLLP, published by
Ctrl+P Publishing Inc.

The Paper. is printed by the Santa Fe
New Mexican in Santa Fe, NM.

Our mailing address is:
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3

Who Sued the City and How Much Did They Settle For?

*Litigation report for the end of last year
details high-dollar settlements*



This story was originally published at City Desk ABQ, a local nonprofit daily newsroom covering local government, politics and more. If you like this story, please support local, independent journalists like these by reading more and donating today at citydesk.org

By Elise Kaplan, City Desk ABQ

In the fall of 2023 — from October through December — the city paid out more than \$3 million in settlements for various lawsuits. Residents sued after they tripped and fell on sidewalks, for discrimination and for civil rights violations. Two people were in crashes with solid waste employees and two were in crashes with Albuquerque police officers. Another was injured on the Sun Van — a ride service for those whose disabilities make it so they can't ride the regular bus routes.

Here are some of the most notable — and high dollar — settlements from the second quarter of fiscal year 2024:

A man sued the city after he got into a crash at Volcano Road and 98th Street in March 2019. He said foliage and signage made it impossible for him to see into the intersection and when he crept over the line he was struck by another vehicle heading north. The intersection was the site of 71 crashes between 2015 and 2018, according to the lawsuit.

Amount paid: \$750,000

Gabriel Garcia, who was shot by Albuquerque Police Department officer Quan La in October 2022, sued the city for assault and battery and civil rights violations. La suspected Garcia was breaking into a convenience store and chased after him. When Garcia threw a rock at the officer, La shot him. La was fired in February 2023.

Amount paid: \$415,000

A married couple sued the city, saying that in October 2019 an animal welfare department worker made an illegal U-Turn and crashed into the passenger side of their vehicle, injuring the wife.

Amount paid: \$300,000

Mark Aragon and Nicholas Layman, from the news site *ABQ RAW*, sued the city for violating the Inspection of Public Records Act. They had filed records requests — in December 2020 and April 2021 — for police lapel camera footage and for emails, text messages, memos and more from 12 high-ranking city officials and did not receive any documents.

Amount paid: \$341,495 and \$225,000

A man sued the city saying that in October 2020 he was at the Cerro Colorado landfill in Southwest Albuquerque to dispose of some trash when a city worker in a motor grader backed into him, totaling his vehicle. He also was injured.

Amount paid: \$205,000

A man sued the city saying that in March 2019 he was seriously injured when a solid waste employee negligently backed a loader out of a garage and into him at the Eagle Rock Solid Waste facility.

Amount paid: \$200,000

Nan Zhang, a former cadet who sued the city saying that she was discriminated against and forced to resign from the academy, alleged the city violated the Inspection of Public Records Act.

Amount paid: \$105,000

Angela Byrd, a former commander of the Albuquerque Police Department's academy who was fired in October 2020, sued the city for violating the Whistleblowers Protection Act and retaliating against her when she tried to report her concerns about Harold Medina — who was deputy chief and is now chief.

Amount paid: \$85,000

Jeremy Dear sued for violations of the Inspection of Public Records Act. Dear, an Albuquerque Police Department officer at the center of the controversial shooting of 19-year-old Mary Hawkes in 2014, was fired for violating "standard operating procedures regarding insubordination and untruthfulness."

Amount paid: \$56,694

Weak in Review: May 15

Quick hits on this week's news bits

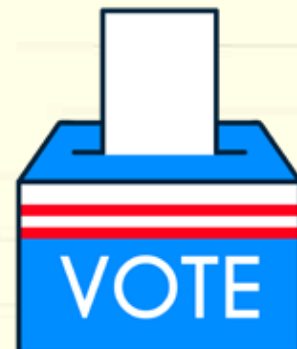
Rio Rancho was named one of the best places to live in the U.S.

Pros: Low cost of living and affordable housing.

Cons: You have to live in Rio Rancho.

Early voting for June's primary election has begun.

They say you can't complain if you don't vote, but we all know you'll complain no matter what.



Some neighbors are trying to put a stop to an apartment development near Old Town.

Like always, people want more housing, just not in their, er...you know the rest.

New Mexico State Police is asking for the public's help in relocating a lost radioactive camera, last seen in Eunice.

We wanted to ask for the public's help finding our lost phone charger, but this other thing seems more important.



City officials say they're short on funds to bring a list of school crosswalks fully into ADA compliance.

Funny enough, we're short on funds to pay taxes.

Some Westside residents are hoping a new roundabout will cut down on speeding and make the area safer for pedestrians.

New traffic designs are still no match for Albuquerque drivers.

The U.S. Department of Education says it's spending millions of dollars to make it easier for college students to apply for financial aid.

What if — and we're just spitballing here — the feds just gave that money directly to the students?

State lawmakers are finding it hard to secure a place to stay during the upcoming special legislative session, which is slated to go down during the peak of Santa Fe's tourist season.

"You don't say," says every Santa Fe resident ever.

The creators of *The Office* are launching a new show about a fictional failing midwestern newspaper.

There are just some things you don't joke about.



Nahalat Shalom and Casa Sefarad Present

poesía

cuentos

música

arte

poetry

stories

music

Festival

Sefardi

May 17 – 19, 2024

Special Guest

Enrique Lamadrid

Honoring Demetria Martinez and Esteban Rael

Poetry Concert with Demetria Martínez and Sandra Marroquín Evans

Art Show with Leo Neufeld

& Featuring In Concert: Lone Piñon

This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts, and by the Stratton-Petit Foundation.

More info at nahalatshalom.org or email hershel@hershelweiss.com

3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM

Festival Sefardi 2024

Congregation Nahalat Shalom (3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW) is hosting Festival Sefardi this weekend, May 17 through 19. The festival is a semi-annual celebration of the history, language and culture of the "Hidden Jews" of New Mexico. Among the scheduled events are a dialogue between Enrique Lamadrid and Demetria Martínez (Songs of a Troublemaker), a poetry concert (Subterranean Rivers of Migration and Secrecy: The New Mexican Sephardic Experience), an art reception and portrait painting demonstration with Leo Neufeld (New Mexico Landscapes, Streetscapes and Selected Portraits) and a storytelling session (Telling Our Stories - Personal Stories Told by Our Sephardic Friends). It all begins on Friday, May 17 at 5pm with the art exhibit opening, followed by a Sephardic Shabbat vegetarian potluck dinner. Things close out on Sunday, May 19 at 4:30pm with a concert by "orquesta típica" band Lone Piñon. Tickets are \$80 for a full weekend pass. Individual event tickets are between \$10 and \$20. Lone Piñon concert tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. For ticketing and event scheduling go to nahalatshalom.org.

THURSDAY, MAY 16

Games

Brain Gang Trivia 6-8 pm Lizard Tail Industrial 3351 Columbia Dr. NE

Geeks Who Drink 7-9 pm Sunday Service Motor Company 2701 4th Street NW

Geeks Who Drink 7-9 pm Outpost 1706 301 Romero St NW

Music

Afro Beats X Reggaeton \$5 9 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest

DHP Presents: Karaoke at Gold Street 6-9 pm Gold Street Pizza & Brew 3211 Coors Blvd SW Suite H1, Albuquerque

Dark Honey Karaoke 6-9 pm Gold Street Pizza & Brew 3211 Coors Blvd SW Suite H1, Albuquerque

Jon Gordon-Michael Morreale Quintet \$15-\$40 7:30-9:30 pm Outpost Performance Space 210 Yale Blvd., SE

Kalina - Original Rock 8-10 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest

Karaoke w/ Swords Entertainment 7:30-11:30 pm Lizard Tail Brewing 9800 Montgomery Blvd NE STE 7

Levi Dean & The Mesa Rats 6-9:30 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

GUILDcinema

Satirical comedy-fantasy **THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MAGICAL NEGROES**
Fri-Mon May 17-20 3:45, 6:00

Queer erotic revenge thriller **FEMME**
Fri-Mon May 17-20 8:00pm

Striking meta-horror **FACELESS AFTER DARK**
Friday May 17 10:30pm

HODGEPODGE SHORT FILM SPECTACULAR
Saturday May 18 1:00pm

Local **SHORT FILMS BY HOLLY ADAMS**
Saturday May 18 10:30pm

Experimental film narrated live: **TERRA FEMME**
Sunday May 19 1:00pm

Betty Boop, Popeye: **FLEISCHER 'TOONS**
Tue-Thu May 21-23 2:15, 6:00

IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT (1934)
Tue-Thu May 21-23 3:45, 7:30

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Make A CHOICE With Your Vote

Primary Election Day: Tuesday, June 4

Early Voting Begins May 18

Request absentee ballot by May 21

Bernalillo County Clerk
Linda Stover

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Mad Caddies \$22 8-11 pm
Launchpad 618 Central Avenue
Southwest

Third Thursday Music w/ David
Garcia 7-9 pm Tractor Brewing
Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE

Sports

Albuquerque Isotopes vs. Sugar
Land Space Cowboys \$15-\$29
6:30-9:30 pm Isotopes Park

FRIDAY, MAY 17

Comedy

Dry Heat Comedy: Buck D
Headliner \$15 9:30-11 pm The
Box Performance Space 114 Gold
Ave SW

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

Monique Marvez \$30-\$40 9:30-11
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 \$10-\$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

Water Strider Dance Group (Zuni
Pueblo) 2-3 pm Indian Pueblo
Cultural Center 2401 12th St. NW

Festival

Festival Sefardi 5-9 pm Nahalat
Shalom 3606 Rio Grande Blvd.
NW

Miscellaneous

CannaCon West \$25-\$40 10 am-5
pm Kiva Auditorium 2nd St &
Marquette Northeast

Music

Friday Night Live: Los
Domingueros 6-8:30 pm El Vado
2500 Central Ave SW

Hooks and the Huckleberries \$12
7-11 pm Sister 407 Central Ave.
NW

Kevin Kinane 6-9 pm
Albuquerque Distilling 5001
Central Ave NE Suite A5

Mineral Hill 6-9 pm Canteen
Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road
Northeast

Pedro Fernandez \$80-\$90 8-9:30
pm Isleta Resort & Casino 11000
Broadway Blvd SE

The Fall of Troy \$22 8-11 pm
Launchpad 618 Central Avenue
Southwest

The Flaming Lips \$49 8-11 pm
Revel Entertainment Center 4720
Alexander Blvd NE

YK Osiris \$35-\$140 10 pm-2 am
Cake Nightclub 515 Central Ave
NW

Outdoors

Bike to Wherever Day 6:30 am-
6:30 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381
Aztec Road Northeast

Performance

Annestasia with Spencer Rick
\$10-\$30 8-11:30 pm JUNO
brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street
Northwest

Sports

Albuquerque Isotopes vs. Sugar
Land Space Cowboys \$15-\$29
6:30-9:30 pm Isotopes Park

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Art

Artists Reception and Talk: Plein
Air Collaborations and Jordan
Caldwell 4:30-6:30 pm Harwood
Art Center 1114 7th Street NW

Comedy

Comedy Night! 7:30-9:30 pm
Brew Lab 101 Beer & Cider Co. -
NE Heights 3107 Eubank Blvd NE
Suite 12

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

Monique Marvez \$30-\$40 9:30-11
pm Quezada's Comedy Club at
Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon
Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo,
Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

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

yes

cannabis is legal.

know

the rules.



Cannabis is now legal in New Mexico for medicinal and adult use. In order to have a safe cannabis experience, it's important to know the rules and tips regarding safe cannabis consumption, how to buy it, how much to consume, and what is still restricted by law.



Visit YesAndKnowsNM.com for additional
guidelines and more information.



NMRLD
CANNABIS CONTROL DIVISION

Stephanie Miller’s Sexy Liberal Save The World Comedy Tour \$20-\$75 8-11 pm Revel Entertainment Center 4720 Alexander Blvd NE

The Show - Live Comedy Improv \$10-\$12 8-9 pm The Box Performance Space 114 Gold Ave SW

Community

Downtown Growers’ Market 8 am-12 pm Robinson Park 810 Copper Ave NW Albuquerque

Dance

Ballet Repertory Theatre’s 34th Annual Academy Performance \$12-\$15 4:30-6:30 pm KiMo Theatre 423 Central Avenue NW

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

Water Strider Dance Group (Zuni Pueblo) 11 am-12 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th St. NW

Water Strider Dance Group (Zuni Pueblo) 2-3 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th St. NW

Family/Kids

Animal Tales With the ABQ BioPark 8:30-9:30 am Ernie Pyle Library 900 Girard SE 900 Girard SE

Day Camp - A Festival for Families 12-5 pm Tin Can Alley 6110 Alameda Blvd. NE

Festival

Boots In The Park Presents Thomas Rhett & Friends 1-10 pm Balloon Fiesta Park 5000 Balloon Fiesta Pkwy NE

Festival Sefardi 10 am-9 pm Nahalat Shalom 3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

New Mexico Heritage Celebration w/ Darren Cordova y Calor 2-7 pm Albuquerque Civic Plaza 1 Civic Plaza

Film

Holly Adams Short Film Festival \$10-\$25 10:30-11:30 pm Guild Cinema 3405 Central Ave NE

Food

Bear Affair 4: Spanish Tapas Beer Pairing Dinner \$65 6-9 pm Boxing Bear Brewing Co. (Firestone Taproom and Brewery) 8420 Firestone Lane NE

Games

Paws & Pinball Fundraiser Pinball Tournament \$0-\$5 12-5 pm Sister 407 Central Ave. NW

Literature/Poetry

Robert D. Kidera “Burn Scars” Book Launch 1:30-3:30 pm Treasure House Books & Gifts 2012 S Plaza St NW A

Miscellaneous

CannaCon \$25-\$40 10 am-5 pm Kiva Auditorium 2nd St & Marquette Northeast

Music

505 Community Band Concert 5-6 pm First Congregational United Church of Christ 2801 Lomas Blvd NE

Beer & Jazz on the Hill 5-11 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Cumbia + Rock en Espanol with Super Verza & Lost Beat + Ave. 69 \$15-\$40 8 pm-12:30 am JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest

EQNX Jazztet 7-9 pm Thirsty Eye Brewing Company 206 Broadway Blvd SE

Enterprise Earth \$17 8 pm-12 am Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest

Gone Country Saturdays w/ DJ Pete Nic 6-9 pm Ponderosa Brewing Company 1761 Bellamah Ave NW

Goth Night \$10 8 pm-2 am Historic El Rey Theatre 622 Central Ave SW

John King Cave 8-10 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

Mineral Hill 7-9 pm Marble Brewery NE Heights 9904 Montgomery Blvd NE

Music - Classical

New Mexico Philharmonic \$35-\$90 6-8 pm Popejoy Hall 203 Cornell Dr

Performance

Rawking: An Afternoon Metal + Art + Comedy Extravaganza \$10 2-7 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest

Paid political advertisement.



Rely on Trust and Experience in HD18 Primary

Marianna Anaya, Democrat, Candidate for House District 18

After twenty-seven years of Representative Gail Chasey’s leadership, on June 4, the voters of House District 18 will have the opportunity to decide who will represent them next in the NM State House of Representatives. In a crowded field of candidates with similar values, I ask voters to rely on trust and experience to make their decision at the polls.

After Representative Gail Chasey announced her retirement, I was honored to receive her endorsement. Representative Chasey has seen, first-hand, my ability to help pass the toughest legislation in the Roundhouse. She supports my work as a community organizer and legislative advocate in repealing the 1969 abortion ban, passing the Voting Rights Act, expanding the Human Rights Act and leading the coalition for Paid Family and Medical Leave. The most meaningful aspect of Representative Chasey’s endorsement is that she recognizes how my lived experience will help our district and our state.

I was born and raised in Albuquerque’s North Valley by my mother, grandmother and eight aunts. Our family has experienced poverty for generations and I have the honor and responsibility of being the first in my family to attend college. I have spent my life helping my family navigate systems- whether that’s helping those struggling with substance use, homelessness, CYFD, the mass incarceration system, or the violent death of their own children.

Because of these experiences, I’ve always worked harder, faster, and with more creativity in problem solving than others. The skills I’ve acquired in navigating systems for my family, being a queer woman of color, and leaning on first-hand experience allows me to bring compassionate and practical solutions to the table as a legislator.

Representative Chasey recognizes my strengths in getting legislation over the finish line and bringing lived experience to the table. So do a host of others – that’s why I’ve earned the trust of organizations like Planned Parenthood Votes NM, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense, Conservation Voters NM, Equality NM, Voices for Children Action Fund, NM Native Vote, Working Families Party, OLÉ, Dreams in Action NM and many of our labor unions including the National Education Association NM, the NM Building and Construction Trades Association, Teamsters, AFSCME, LiUNA, Carpenters, CWA and IBEW. Additionally, I’ve earned the support of 24 Democrats in the New Mexico House and Senate, countless medical and legal professionals, and passionately committed community leaders.

During the primary, I humbly ask Democrats in HD18 for their vote- to add your name to the list of those who trust me to “hit the ground running” as HD18’s next state representative. I feel a deep responsibility as the home-grown candidate in this race. I understand first-hand the complexities of our community, bring the energy we need to inspire a new generation of voters, fight for the values we care about most as Democrats and bring the experience necessary to not just dream about the policies we want to see passed, but to introduce those policies and see them through.



Learn more at www.mariannaformm.com

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Marianna Anaya, Shannon Gilbert, Treasurer.

Sports

Albuquerque Isotopes vs. Sugar Land Space Cowboys \$15-\$29
6:30-9:30 pm Isotopes Park

Albuquerque Roller Derby - Home Team Battle \$10-\$13 4-8 pm EXPO New Mexico 300 San Pedro Dr NE

SUNDAY, MAY 19

Community

International Conference on Cardiology & Cardiovascular Research 09:30 AM - 05:00 PM Online Santa Fe

Dance

Water Strider Dance Group (Zuni Pueblo) 2-3 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th St. NW

Discussion / Lecture

Jorge Lozano H: "Estado Civil: Ingobernable" \$54-\$104 7:30-9:30 pm Popejoy Hall 203 Cornell Dr

Festival

Festival Sefardi 1-7 pm Nahalat Shalom 3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

Games

Brain Gang Trivia 2-4 pm Lizard Tail Brewing 9800 Montgomery Blvd NE STE 7

Brain Gang Trivia 5-7 pm Lizard Tail Brewing Nob Hill 3417 Central Ave. NE Suite C

Literature/Poetry

Gency Brown Talk & Book Signing 1:30-3:30 pm Treasure House Books & Gifts 2012 S Plaza St NW A

Markets

Rail Yard Market: Great Burque Bake-Off Day 10 am-2 pm Albuquerque Rail Yards 722 3rd St SW

Music

Drink Beer, Save Turtles w/ The Squash Blossom Boys 4-7 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

One More Silver Dollar 3-6 pm Rio Bravo Brewing Company 1912 Second St NW

Pandora Y Flans - Inesperado Usa Tour 2024 \$55-\$95 8-10 pm Kiva Auditorium 2nd St & Marquette Northeast

Sunday Jazz Jam 5:30-8 pm Lizard Tail Industrial 3351 Columbia Dr. NE

Teen Mortgage \$15 8-11 pm Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest

Unity in Rhythm: A Drum Circle Event 2:30-4:30 pm FUSION | 708 708 1st St NW

Performance

Tablao Flamenco Albuquerque Sunday Matinee \$25-\$35 3-5 pm Tablao Flamenco at Hotel Albuquerque 800 Rio Grande Blvd NW

Sports

Albuquerque Isotopes vs. Sugar Land Space Cowboys \$15-\$29 1:30-4:30 pm Isotopes Park

Games

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

Geeks Who Drink 7-9 pm M'tucci's Bar Roma Restaurant 3222 Central Ave. SE

Geeks Who Drink 7-9 pm Santa Fe Brewing (Tin Can Alley) 6110 Alameda Blvd NE Suite #1

Geeks Who Drink 7-9 pm Bow & Arrow Brewing Co. 608 McKnight Ave NW

Music

Trophy Eyes \$17 7:30-11 pm Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest

Violent Vira \$20-\$70 8 pm-12 am Insideout 622 Central Ave SW


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Discussion / Lecture

Wild Wisdom Series: Paddles & Pints 6-7 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Games

Brain Gang Trivia 7-9 pm Lizard Tail Industrial 3351 Columbia Dr. NE

Geeks Who Drink 7-9 pm 505 Central Food Hall 505 Central Ave NW

Music

Nob Hill Stage Open Mic 6 pm-12 am Public House ABQ 201 Hermosa Dr NE

Raven Rutherford & Her Sweet Potato Pie Band 5:30-7:30 pm Steel Bender Brewery 8305 Second St. NW, Los Ranchos de

Rudeboy Open Mic 7-9 pm Sunday Service Motor Company 2701 4th Street NW

Stitched Up Heart \$15 8-11 pm Launchpad 618 Central Avenue Southwest


Tasty Tuesday Dance Party f/ AudioBuddha 6-8 pm Hyder Park 700 Richmond Drive Albuquerque

Outdoors


Night Walks at the Botanic Garden \$9-\$15 6:30-8 pm ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden 2601 Central Ave NW

Performance

ExtraExtra, Smoke & Mirrors, Timefoolery \$10 7-10 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest



GLORIA DOHERTY for HOUSE DISTRICT 18



A vote for **Gloria** is a vote for:

- Knowledgeable Leadership
- Independent Thinking
- Consensus Building & Trust



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KUNM 89.9 FM albuquerque / santa fe

“As a nurse practitioner in a critical access hospital, I care for patients and families and constantly collaborate with fire fighters, police, EMS, and other health professionals.”

“I listen to our communities’ voices, not special interest groups. I approach policies in a non-partisan manner, seeking input from local experts. We can attain sustainable change. **Progress is possible!**”

- Gloria

Vote Democrat Gloria Doherty PhD, RN
State Representative House District 18

Paid for by Gloria for HD 18. Luke Esquibel, Treasurer.

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LEGAL NOTICE

ASSUMED NAME NOTICE

effective April 2, 2024 at 11:59 PM

It is notified that the name

FELICA LATRES DIXON has been

assumed by Felica LaTres Dixon on

April 2, 2024 at 11:59 pm

LEGAL NOTICE

ASSUMED NAME NOTICE

effective April 3, 2024 at 11:59 PM

It is notified that the name

MYRON JENKINS JR has

been assumed by

Myron Jenkins Jr. on April 3, 2024

at 11:59 pm

LEGAL NOTICE

ASSUMED NAME NOTICE

Effective April 23, 2024 at 11:59 PM

It is notified that the name

CASSANDRA LUCRETIA ROUNDS

has been assumed by

Cassandra Lucretia Rounds on

April 23, 2024 at 11:59 PM

LEGAL NOTICE

My name is Darius Trevar Walker-Scott

last 4 of social

an claim I am living person. In accordance with the Fair Credit Reporting Act. Transunion, Equifax, and Experian have violated my rights, deprived me of my alienable rights, trespassed upon my estate, as well as violating my pursuit of happiness. 15 USC 1681 Section 602 states I have the right to privacy. 15 USC 1681 Section 604 A Section 2: It also states a consumer reporting agency USC 1666B, Timing of payments also as a consumer per 15 US code 1681n: Civil liability for willful noncompliance in case of liability of a natural person for obtaining actual damages sustained by consumer as a result of the failure or \$1000 whichever is greater. The company that has violated my rights is Hayes Chrysler Dodge Jeep Inc.

719 West Pike Street, Lawrenceville, Ga 30046. The name and address of the Security Interest Holder is Regional Acceptance Corp 1424 E Fire Tower Road

Greenville NC 27858. These companies have committed securities fraud. The Dodge Challenger year 2021 2C3CDZJG9MH563572 has been discharged per the IRS on 4/26/24 and accepted. The discharge reference number for Hayes Chrysler dodge jeep in is #1545-0877. For Regional Acceptance Corp reference number is #1545-0877. Please remove this from reporting to my credit report. This is securities fraud. If this is not removed from everywhere its reporting or I will sue both of these companies in the amount of \$3,000,000 for reporting a debt that has been paid and full I want my security back and all of my money back including my deposit. Supreme court states 2 million per violation of depriving me of my pursuit of happiness and trespassing my estate.

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**ONCE
FRIENDLY,
NOW FOES**

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How to Vote

Answers to some FAQs about voting in NM

The content on this page is provided courtesy of the New Mexico secretary of state.

Do I need to present identification when I vote?

You do not have to present identification to vote in a statewide election. When registering for the first time in New Mexico, you must submit a copy of (1) a current and valid photo identification; or (2) a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, student identification card or other government document, including identification issued by an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo that shows your name and current address. If you do not submit the required identification with your mailed-in, first time registration, then you will be required to present one of the forms of identification when voting in person or absentee.

Some municipal jurisdictions in New Mexico have ordinances in place that require voter ID be presented to vote in city elections. This includes the City of Rio Rancho.

What identification do I need to provide when I vote?

A physical form of identification is only required for first-time New Mexico voters who registered by mail and did not include identification with their voter registration application form.

Otherwise, you will be asked to provide a verbal or written statement of identification including your name, year of birth, and registered address.

Can I vote if my status is “inactive”?

Yes, an “inactive” status does not prohibit any registered voter to vote. You will vote like usual and your status will return to “active.”

How can military and overseas voters participate in voting in an election?

Information, deadlines and eligibility requirements for military and overseas voters can be found at sos.nm.gov.

How much does it cost to mail my absentee ballot?

Return postage is pre-paid.

The outer envelope of my absentee ballot requests an AV Register Number. Do I fill this out?

You can leave that information blank. This information is for internal use only.

Can others find out how I voted?

By law, your ballot is secret and no one can find out how you voted. Certain portions of your voter registration record, including party affiliation and whether or not you vote in a

particular election, is public record and may be requested. Voter registration record information is most often requested by political parties and candidates.

If I am unable to mail my absentee ballot, who is allowed to drop it off and where?

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 1-6-10.1, a voter, caregiver to that voter or member of that voter’s “immediate family” defined as a person’s spouse, children, parents, brothers and sisters may deliver a voter’s absentee ballot to the county clerk in person or by mail.

How do I correctly write-in a candidate on my ballot?

When casting the write-in vote, fill in the oval and write the name of the declared write-in candidate. Unless both of these requirements are fulfilled, the vote will not be counted.



Find more information about who’s running at abq.news/elections

The Paper.



Scan Here

Battle for the Westside

A primary race between a political newcomer and longtime legislator will decide who takes it all in the general election



Julie Radoslovich (left) and Antonio "Moe" Maestas (right)

By Andy Lyman, The Paper.

It wouldn't be primary election season without barbs, jabs and accusations within one political party.

That's the case in one state Senate district on the Westside.

The triangular-shaped Senate District 26 hugs a southern section of the Bosque and stretches west to Atrisco Vista Boulevard. The district's Democratic incumbent Antonio "Moe" Maestas was appointed by the Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners in 2022 to replace former Sen. Jacob Candelaria.

While Maestas is technically running for the seat for the first time, he's a well-known name in New Mexico politics.

Now, his primary challenger Julie Radoslovich, who was born and raised in the South Valley, is positioning herself as the candidate to make new and fresh changes to the district while also framing Maestas as career politician who's failed constituents.

"You get better when you have competition," Radoslovich tells *The Paper*. "He's not had competition at all, and in my mind, I really believe that people deserve a choice and I'm offering them a choice, and a choice that represents the people."

Maestas has represented Senate District 26 for less than two years, so Radoslovich is largely taking aim at Maestas' time representing House District

16, a position he held for more than 15 years. During that time, Maestas faced only a handful of opponents, both in primary and general elections.

Radoslovich says Maestas "is not holding to Democratic ideals," but Maestas tells *The Paper*: he begs to differ.

"The best indicator of future expectations is past accomplishments," Maestas says. "So that kind of begs the question, imagine what we can accomplish from the Senate side, imagine what we could accomplish as a senior senator, considering what we accomplished as a rank and file House member."

Maestas' campaign website boasts a list of legislation he was a "prime sponsor" for, such as criminal justice reform bills, a film tax credit bill and legislation that added a new type of liquor license.

Radoslovich says one idea she's "playing with" is the possibility of a guaranteed basic income pilot program to combat what she sees as a wealth disparity in the district. For example, she says, some constituents are asking for electric car charging stations, while others are still struggling to afford groceries.

"I can tell you, residents in the South Valley don't have that luxury [of buying an electric car]," she says. "So it's trying to find the balance of both, and how do you serve a very diverse district?"

Maestas says the district needs more "methodically" thought

out development that "spurs economic growth."

"We definitely need to get people out of their cars and into their homes," Maestas says. "By creating jobs on the Westside, they spend more time with their families and less time in their cars polluting and driving east of the river."

Radoslovich however says she's more mindful of "the quality of life" of residents already living in District 26 neighborhoods.

"We need to think carefully about why people love New Mexico," she says, referring to the Petroglyph National Monument and the Rio Grande.

With no Republican candidate running for the district, the winner of the primary election is all but guaranteed to win the general election and head to Santa Fe next year. Both Radoslovich and Maestas say they plan to work toward bettering their communities, but stopped short of saying they would offer direct help to their opponent during the session.

Radoslovich says "the work won't stop."

"I need to be active in communities and thinking how to help serve my neighbors," she says.

Maestas has a similar goal.

"To serve in whatever capacity I can, is my goal," he says. "I think I could best serve the Westside as the sitting senator for the next four years."

Once Friendly, Now Foes

Old allies face off in a primary to represent Senate District 13

By Gwynne Ann Unruh, The Paper.

Democratic Sen. Bill O'Neill is facing his first primary opponent after representing Senate District 13 for more than a decade — and it's someone he's worked with closely before. His opponent, former Bernalillo County Commissioner Debbie O'Malley, says she decided to go up against O'Neill because he hasn't done enough for the district.

"I just feel like I want more from my senator," O'Malley tells *The Paper*.

With 11 years as a state senator under his belt — and three years as a state representative before that — O'Neill not only has name recognition in his favor, but also years' worth of his voting record at the Roundhouse.

"I think my record speaks for itself," he says. "I bring a certain talent to the Legislature. I've worked across the aisle without sacrificing my progressive values,

I get bills upstairs, I get bills passed."

O'Neill sits on both the Indian, Rural & Cultural Affairs and Senate Judiciary committees and touts the criminal justice reform, economic development and affordable housing legislation he's cosponsored over the years.

But O'Malley has name recognition in her favor too, thanks to more than a decade as a city councilor and another eight years serving on the Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners. But, she says, her lived experience makes her the best candidate to represent a district she says is in bad shape.

"I was raised in a working-class family," O'Malley says. "My father was a mechanic."

She says the district's residents are in dire situations that could get worse if not addressed soon.

"We have more homeless than we ever had, we have more working poor than we've ever



Debbie O'Malley (left) and Bill O'Neill (right)

had. Children arrive at school and they haven't had a thing to eat," O'Malley says. "These are very alarming things to me. That means we'll have generations of children who are at a huge disadvantage. It's very disturbing, just from a level of the human condition."

The two candidates are not only familiar with each other, they've also worked together on the city's tiny home project.

"I knew that was her sort of pet project at one point," O'Neill says. "I was able to allocate \$300,000. It was the biggest appropriation that I've ever done."

O'Neill tells *The Paper*: that he

and O'Malley going head to head is just part of the political process, but he still sees himself as the best candidate.

"She feels she can do a better job. This is our system at work," O'Neill says. "I feel like I'm at the top of my game, so to speak."

There is no Republican candidate running for the seat in the primary election, so whoever wins the race in June will head to the general election in November unopposed. More information about the candidates can be found on their campaign websites: billoneill4nm.com and debbieformnsenate.com.

Next in Line

The candidate flood gates opened after a longtime incumbent bowed out



Marianna Anaya
(Source: Marianna Anaya campaign)



Anjali Taneja
(Source: Anjali Taneja campaign)



Gloria Doherty
(Source: Gloria Doherty campaign)



Juan Larrañaga
(Source: Juan Larrañaga)

By Andy Lyman, The Paper.

Democratic primary voters in a progressive enclave of Albuquerque will need to comb through the policy differences of four candidates with very similar ideals to determine who's taking the reins from a long time state representative.

Democratic Rep. Gail Chasey — the longest serving member of the House — announced earlier this year that she was retiring from the Legislature. Chasey has represented House District 18 since 1996 and currently serves as the House majority leader. The district's physical boundaries stretch from Kirtland Air Force Base to I-40 and from I-25 to as far as San Mateo Blvd. in some spots. According to U.S. Census data, more than half the population of the district identifies as white, while about 30 percent identifies as Hispanic. Given that the House district has remained blue since the time of dial-up internet and that the corresponding Senate, City Council and County Commission Districts have all been long-represented by politically left-leaning office holders, the area is all but a guaranteed win for progressives.

This year is no different for the House district — all four primary candidates are Democrats and three are graduates of a local program that trains and encourages Democratic women to run for public office.

Marianna Anaya is arguably the most high profile of the candidates running in District 18, especially with an endorsement from Chasey. Anaya's name has also been in local headlines, but not necessarily under ideal circumstances. She came forward

in 2022 with sexual assault and harassment allegations against state Democratic Sen. Daniel Ivey-Soto. Her complaints led to an internal legislative investigation, which ultimately fell short of any sort of censure for Ivey-Soto. But after the secret investigative process came to light, the Legislature made significant changes to the way it handles ethics complaints. Anaya, who's also worked as a community organizer and legislative lobbyist, tells *The Paper*. she doesn't want her allegations to be the main focus of her candidacy, but she says going up against a sitting senator as well as hordes of "corporate lobbyists" shows how she can speak truth to power.

"Will I be fearless? Absolutely. And that's really what I hope the voters in my district know and understand about me," Anaya says.

In a field of three other progressive opponents, Anaya says her time advocating during legislative sessions sets her apart.

"I think a lot of folks who enter races for political office have a starry-eyed approach to what it means to be a legislator," she says. "But it's very different when you have been there 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for 30 to 60 days sessions."

Completing Emerge New Mexico's program aimed at preparing Democratic women to run for office is another one of Anaya's achievements, but two of her opponents have the same bragging rights.

Dr. Anjali Taneja, another candidate for District 18, graduated from the Emerge program in 2010 and has experience pushing for federal legislation in Washington, D.C., but she says her experience as a

physician at a South Valley health clinic separates her from the rest of the pack. She says her time working as the executive director at Casa de Salud has allowed her to work directly with the community in a "very profound and visceral way."

"I have borne witness to the stories of my patients every day," Taneja says. "A lot of ideas and needs for what change we need, and how perhaps the system is not fully working well for us comes from my patients."

Rounding out the Emerge graduates running for District 18 is Gloria Doherty, a nurse practitioner. Doherty tells *The Paper*. her doctorate in public policy separates her from the other three candidates.

"Besides my expertise in health care and all the work and advocacy I've done in health care — including being on Senator Ben Ray Luján and Secretary [of Health and Human Services Xavier] Becerra's roundtable for the health care workforce shortage, I have a little bit of knowledge — definitely not an expert — about other topics, like climate, nongovernmental organizations, Homeland Security, budget analysis, policy analysis — which I've been doing for years," Doherty says. "That gives me the skills to be able to bring together the questions that need to be asked and actually find people in my community that are experts, and call on the community to figure out if voting in favor or not in favor is actually good for our state in our community, as opposed to necessarily party politics."

Juan Larrañaga, an instructional designer at Central New Mexico Community College, says he's different from the three other candidates

because of his lived experience volunteering for various civil rights organizations from a young age. He says he's taking a page from his decades of community organizing and running his campaign with "a community-based approach," which means he's been knocking on a lot of doors himself.

"I see myself as the underdog because there's three women and myself," Larrañaga says. "I believe that progressives should support me and vote for an Albuquerque native — somebody who knows the neighborhoods, who knows the community."

Democratic voters in District 18 hoping to find some distinction between the list of candidates might have their work cut off for them, but the vibe amongst the four vying to win the primary seems to be civil. Larrañaga says Democratic Party leaders laid out some unofficial ground rules.

"The Democratic Party has spoken to all of us, I think, and said, 'Let's make this a friendly race,'" Larrañaga says. "I've spoken with some of the other candidates and that's what we said: We're going to keep it a friendly race."

Taneja, who scored endorsements from Democratic Sens. Jerry Ortiz y Pino and Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, says the crowded primary race is actually a good thing for voters.

"I think that voters having choices is extremely empowering and competitive primaries facilitate dialogue and refinement of ideas among candidates, which is only a good thing," Taneja says. "I really strongly believe that voters deserve, and that they want, that kind of a process — not an uncontested coronation."

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

Week of May 15

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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Polish-born author Joseph Conrad (1857–1924) didn’t begin to speak English until he was 21 years old. At 25, his writing in that language was still stiff and stilted. Yet during the next 40+ years, he employed his adopted tongue to write 19 novels, numerous short stories, and several other books. Today he is regarded as one of the greatest writers in the English language. You may not embark on an equally spectacular growth period in the coming months, Aries. But you do have extra power to begin mastering a skill or subject that could ultimately be crucial to your life story. Be inspired by Conrad’s magnificent accomplishments.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Hypothetically, you could learn to give a stirring rendering of Beethoven’s *Symphony No. 5* on a slide whistle. Or you could perform the “To be or not to be” soliloquy from Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* for an audience of pigeons that aren’t even paying attention. Theoretically, you could pour out your adoration to an unattainable celebrity or give a big tip to a waiter who provided mediocre service or do your finest singing at a karaoke bar with two people in the audience. But I hope you will offer your skills and gifts with more discernment and panache, Taurus—especially these days. Don’t offer yourself carelessly. Give your blessings only to people who deeply appreciate them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): When I lived in San Francisco in 1995, thieves stole my Chevy Malibu. It was during the celebratory mayhem that swept the city following the local football team’s Super Bowl victory. Cops miraculously recovered my car, but it had been irrevocably damaged in one specific way: It could no longer drive in reverse. Since I couldn’t afford a new vehicle, I kept it for the next two years, carefully avoiding situations when I would need to go backward. It was a perfect metaphor for my life in those days. Now I’m suggesting you consider adopting it for yours. From what I can discern, there will be no turning around anytime soon. Don’t look back. Onward to the future!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Cancerian basketball coach Tara VanDerveer is in the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame. She won more games than anyone else in the sport. Here’s one aspect of her approach to coaching. She says that the greatest players “have a screw loose”—and she regards that as a very good thing. I take her to mean that the superstars are eccentric, zealous, unruly, and daring. They don’t conform to normal theories about how to succeed. They have a wild originality and fanatical drive for excellence. If you might ever be interested in exploring the possible advantages of having a screw loose for the sake of your ambitions, the coming months will be one of the best times ever.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Am I one of your father figures, uncle figures, or brother figures? I hope so! I have worked hard to purge the toxic aspects of masculinity that I inherited from my culture. And I have diligently and gleefully cultivated the most beautiful aspects of masculinity. Plus, my feminist principles have been ripening and growing stronger for many years. With that as our background, I encourage you to spend the coming weeks upgrading your own relationship to the masculine archetype, no matter which of the 77 genders you might be. I see this as an excellent time for you to take practical measures to get the very best male influences in your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Now that your mind, your heart, and your world have opened wider than you imagined possible, try to anticipate how they might close down if you’re not always as bold and brave as you have been in recent months. Then sign a contract with yourself, promising that you will not permit your mind, your heart, and your world to shrink or narrow. If you proactively heal your fears before they break out, maybe they won’t break

out. (PS: I will acknowledge that there may eventually be a bit of contraction you should allow to fully integrate the changes—but only a bit.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I would love you to cultivate connections with characters who can give you shimmery secrets and scintillating stories you need to hear. In my astrological opinion, you are in a phase when you require more fascination, amazement, and intrigue than usual. If love and sex are included in the exchange, so much the better—but they are not mandatory elements in your assignment. The main thing is this: For the sake of your mental, physical, and spiritual health, you must get your limitations dissolved, your understanding of reality enriched, and your vision of the future expanded.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Scorpio writer Andrew Solomon made a very Scorpionic comment when he wrote, “We all have our darkness, and the trick is making something exalted of it.” Of all the signs of the zodiac, you have the greatest potential to accomplish this heroic transmutation—and to do it with panache, artistry, and even tenderness. I trust you are ready for another few rounds of your mysterious specialty. The people in your life would benefit from it almost as much as you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Have you been nursing the hope that someday you will retrain your loved ones? That you will change them in ways that make them act more sensibly? That you will convince them to shed qualities you don’t like and keep just the good parts? If so, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to drop this fantasy. In its place, I advise you to go through whatever mental gymnastics are necessary as you come to accept and love them exactly as they are. If you can manage that, there will be a bonus development: You will be more inclined to accept and love yourself exactly as you are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): I brazenly predict that in the next 11 months, you will get closer than ever before to doing your dream job. Because of your clear intentions, your diligent pragmatism, and the Fates’ grace, life will present you with good opportunities to earn money by doing what you love and providing an excellent service to your fellow creatures. But I’m not necessarily saying everything will unfold with perfection. And I am a bit afraid that you will fail to capitalize on your chances by being too insistent on perfection. Please assuage my doubts, Capricorn! Welcome imperfect but interesting progress.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In his book *Ambivalent Zen*, Lawrence Shainberg mourns that even while meditating, his mind is always fleeing from the present moment—forever “lurching towards the future or clinging to the past.” I don’t agree that this is a terrible thing. In fact, it’s a consummately human characteristic. Why demonize and deride it? But I can also see the value of spending quality time in the here and now—enjoying each new unpredictable moment without compulsively referencing it to other times and places. I bring this up, Aquarius, because I believe that in the coming weeks, you can enjoy far more free time in the rich and resonant present than is normally possible for you. Make “BE HERE NOW” your gentle, relaxing battle cry.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Two-thirds of us claim to have had a paranormal encounter. One-fourth say they can telepathically sense other people’s emotions. One-fifth have had conversations with the spirits of the dead. As you might guess, the percentage of Pisceans in each category is higher than all the rest of the zodiac signs. And I suspect that number will be even more elevated than usual in the coming weeks. I hope you love spooky fun and uncanny mysteries and semi-miraculous epiphanies! Here they come.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Cola opener

5 Fragrant wood

10 Alka-Seltzer sound?

14 Place to broil

15 Iron ____ (rust)

16 Palmist's concern

17 Extend credit

18 Outward show

20 Periodical piece

22 Wall coating

23 Sushi bar order

24 More than dislike

26 Bleachers denizen

28 Calcutta's continent

30 Slinky shape

34 Anagram for "one"

35 Drumming sounds

37 Musical close

38 Thin, slow flow

40 Plaintiff's filing

42 Provo's state

43 Printing goofs

45 Fishing gear

46 Waldorf and Caesar

48 Help in holding up

49 Word on a bill

50 Tropical fruit

52 Repair shop fig.

54 Stomach-related

57 Caustic wit

61 Emphasize

63 Slender instrument

64 Putdown

65 News source of yore

66 Chimney duct

67 Sings without singing

68 Fictional Potter

69 Fedora fabric

7 Party bowlful

8 Skilled

9 Home business?

10 Synthetic materials

11 Fuzz

12 Previously

13 Social equal

19 Coarse file

21 Hollywood's Gable

25 Partake of

26 Former embryo

27 Largest artery

29 Vendor's spiel

31 Camelot meeting spot

32 It may be bid

33 Starbucks item

36 Sculptor's medium

39 Book sections

41 2017 film, "The Shape of ____"

44 Bit of sunlight

47 "Shucks!"

51 Honda's luxury line

53 Speak derisively

54 Cut

55 Rights grp.

56 Pond gunk

58 Lofty nest (var.)

59 Motown genre

60 Come together

62 Televisé

DOWN

1 Bubbly drink

2 Head-heels connector

3 _____ State: Colorado

4 Actress MacDowell

5 Locomotive fuel

6 Logistics worker

The Paper.

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Solution to Crossword:

“PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY RELIEF!”

Bernalillo resident Maria R had been experiencing the debilitating side effects of Peripheral Neuropathy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

"I learned about Dr. Andrea Brogdon from an article I read and learned that she helped others like me, experiencing the same symptoms.

I made an appointment hoping she was going to be able to help me. It was my last resort."

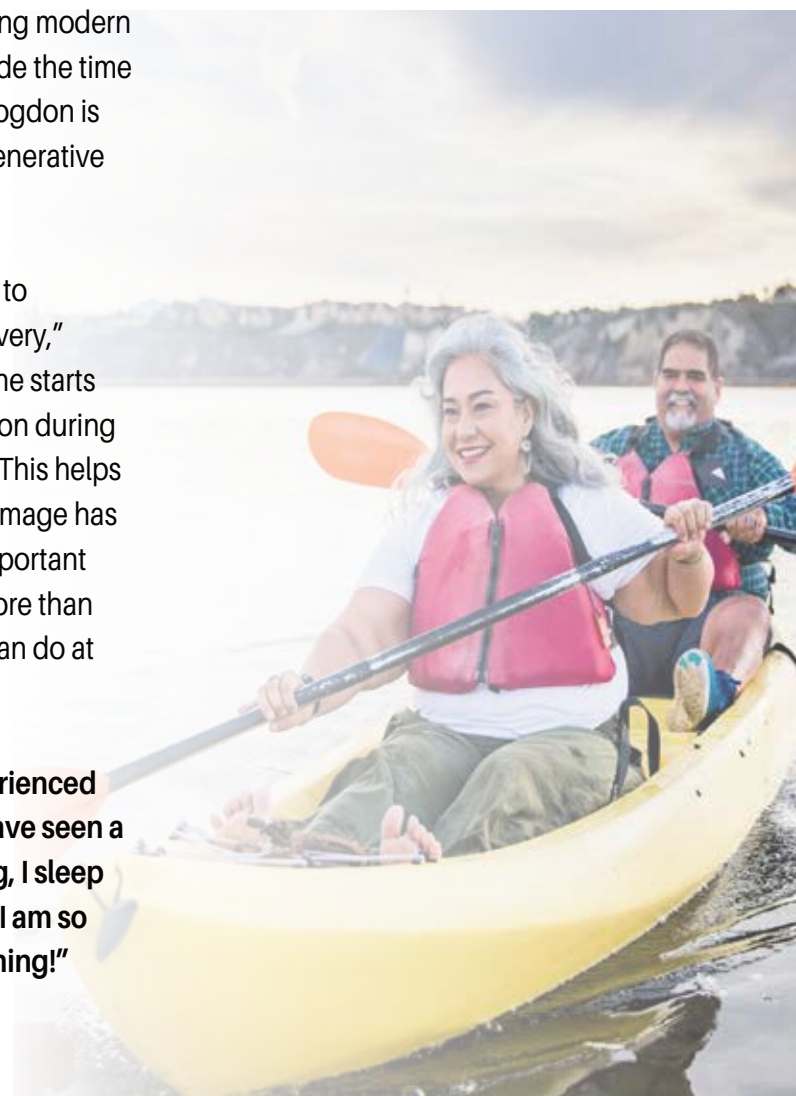
Dr. Andrea Brogdon has helped thousands of patients get their life back after being diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy and living with the debilitating effects of the disease. How does she get such amazing results? "Acupuncture has been used for centuries to improve circulation but the real magic happens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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Keep On Truckin'

Weed and driver shortages



(Art by Rachel Mills)

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

The U.S. is facing a massive truck driver shortage, and the entire supply chain is under threat. Cannabis legalization might play a role in this issue, and some advocates are calling for the government to change its requirements. But experts say easing restrictions on driver marijuana use to accommodate recreational weed isn't a responsible answer.

A new federal report found that record numbers of truck drivers are refusing to submit to drug tests, which may indicate that state-level legalization of recreational marijuana is contributing to the driver shortage. According to the report, the number of drivers who refused a drug test in February increased by 39 percent compared to the year before. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) requires all truck drivers to pass a standard drug test before they're

hired to drive a commercial motor vehicle.

This comes while the nation is in the throes of a driver shortage that threatens supply chains. According to *Commercial Carrier Journal*, the American Trucking Associations estimated that the industry was short 60,000 drivers at the beginning of the year.

One of the biggest challenges facing the industry is a workforce that is aging out. There are many more drivers above the age of 55 than younger drivers, and every year the industry loses a good portion of them to retirement. Younger people in the workforce are reportedly less interested in entering the industry because of the long hours, the physical demands of the job and the perception that it is an undesirable career path.

A June 2023 American Transportation Research Institute report said the federal ban on weed is "a potential disincentive for drivers to stay

in the industry, and it has even been argued that loosening the restrictions on marijuana use would make the industry more attractive and widen the potential labor pool." With more young people using weed at an increased pace, restrictions on the drug may make working in the industry appear unattractive.

This could be bad news for anyone who likes to buy groceries or purchase goods or eat at restaurants or fill their vehicles with gas or enjoy any of the comforts of modern living. Truck deliveries are the lifeblood of the national supply chain, and without them, the entire country could grind to a screeching halt. It could affect every single industry in the nation.

Johnny R. Johnson, CEO of the New Mexico Trucking Association tells *The Paper* that New Mexico is feeling some of the effects of the driver shortage, but not at the same level as some other spots in the country.

"There are several different types of truck driving. There's long haul, local and designated routes," Johnson says. "I'd say long haul is suffering a little bit of driver shortage. But for local and designated routes, I don't see that much of a driver shortage."

Johnson says he hasn't noticed any correlation between shortages and cannabis legalization, and hiring drivers hasn't become more difficult since New Mexico legalized.

But he is aware of an increase in failed drug tests.

"As far as failing a drug test, because they were either smoking it or around it, there has been an uptick in drivers failing their random drug tests or their pre-employment drug tests," he says.

When asked whether he thought easing marijuana restrictions was a good idea, he answered with his own poignant questions.

"Are you willing to get on an airplane with a pilot that has been smoking marijuana? Do you want to be on the highway beside an 80,000-pound truck with a driver who's been smoking marijuana?"

Johnson goes on to say that he believes the reported increase in drivers who refuse to

submit to a drug test may not be accurate.

"There might be an occasional guy or gal that says 'No, I like my marijuana. I don't want to continue my CDL.' That may be happening," he says. "But 40 percent, I think, is a pretty exaggerated number."

Johnson says that keeping drug tests in place is essential to maintaining road safety.

"In my world, it's very simple," says Johnson. "It's a safety issue when you're dealing with the motoring public — who we have to deal with every day — and you're responsible for 80,000 pounds of cargo."

He also says that allowing drivers to use marijuana could have a cascade effect that hurts the economy much like the driver shortage.

"The economy relies on trucking," he says. "You start upticking the accident ratio because of marijuana use, and you're going to affect the economy. To the point that you're going to also increase inflation. A lot of people don't understand that. Messing with the supply chain is probably not a good answer."

Some advocates are saying that current urine and blood-based drug tests give an inaccurate representation of whether someone uses cannabis. These tests can find cannabinoids in the body days to months after ingestion, depending on the quantity used, meaning that a potential driver could smoke a joint in May and still test positive in July. Some advocates suggest using mouth swab tests as an alternative to find out if an applicant has used recently.

But industry experts say using the current methods helps to keep regular pot users out of truck cabs and that it's worth the sacrifice of losing potential drivers if it means keeping drugged truckers off the road.

"The bottom line is it's a safety issue," says Johnson. "It has always been a safety issue with drugs and truck driving. And it's not going to change anytime soon, because I don't see the federal government dropping those restrictions for pilots or truck drivers."

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

For most of us, tax season is over and we don't want to even think about it for another year. But for cannabis businesses, the specter of the Internal Revenue Code hovers year round. That's because they aren't allowed to deduct normal business expenses from their taxes like everyone else. However, they might see some major tax relief if weed is rescheduled.

It's an exciting moment in weed history right now: The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has recommended marijuana be moved from Schedule I to Schedule III. If that goes through, the drug will officially be designated as having some medical uses and being less dangerous than drugs such as heroin, PCP or crack cocaine.

One big and exciting side effect of rescheduling will be that cannabis companies can finally be free of Section 280E of the revenue code, which prohibits anyone from deducting normal business expenses from their taxes if their business traffics controlled substances in Schedule I or II. Since marijuana is in Schedule I, state-licensed weed operators like dispensaries and producers are barred from deducting normal business expenses.

According to the IRS website: "While IRS Code Section 280E is clear that all the deductions and credits aren't allowed for an illegal business, there's a caveat: Marijuana business owners can deduct their cost of goods sold, which is basically the cost of their inventory. What aren't deductible are the normal overhead expenses, such as advertising expenses, wages and salaries and travel expenses, to name a few."

To add insult to injury, business expenses are taken out of income before it's taxed, meaning legitimate businesses in other sectors are able to take advantage of a tax cut that isn't available to weed companies.

Cannabis Law Attorney Carlos Martinez, managing partner and co-owner of Legal Solutions of New Mexico tells *The Rolling Paper* that 280E was created to deal with an unusual tax case involving a dealer who got busted in 1974 for a massive illegal drug operation and received a visit from the IRS in 1981 when the agency realized just how much money he'd made.

Weed and the Tax Man

Companies could save thousands in taxes



(Source: 401(K) 2012 at Wikimedia Commons)

"Edmondson vs. Commissioner," Martinez says. "Edmondson was a self-employed drug dealer and he was assessed a tax. He obviously didn't formally keep tax books, so he had to recreate his financial situation for the tax years that he was being investigated for."

Edmondson claimed deductions for business trips, mileage, apartment office space, rent and even paraphernalia like scales.

"Ultimately, the court believed his testimony — gave him a lot of credence and accepted his numbers," Martinez says. "They basically gave him a tax deduction for his drug dealing business."

Congress ran to make sure that never happened again and in 1982 passed an amendment to include 280E in the tax code.

If the DEA succeeds in rescheduling marijuana as Schedule III — a category not listed in 280E — weed businesses would suddenly and immediately be able to begin making deductions.

The timeline on such a shift isn't totally clear. Once the DEA posts the proposed rule to the Federal Register, there will be a period for public comment, which can last for months, after which the agency may decide if it wants to go through with posting a final rule. That timeline may be lengthened if anyone decides to

file a suit to block the rule change.

"If it survives judicial scrutiny, then businesses can start taking those deductions for ordinary and necessary business deductions," Martinez says. "It should have a pretty immediate effect on taxes. Now in regards to whether that's going to solve the problem of conflicting state and federal rules: No. For all intents and purposes, manufacturing, distribution and trafficking of cannabis is still illegal federally."

Martinez says there will probably be other unforeseen complications if the DEA successfully reschedules weed.

"You have to have a prescription to get Schedule III drugs, so I don't know what that's going to mean for dispensaries operating currently. There's a lot of unknowns along with the tax benefits."

Marijuana businesses can start getting prepared for the change now by keeping an eye on the rescheduling approval process. The White House has yet to confirm the current stage of the proposal. Martinez says staying informed on the process will help businesses get ready for the changeover.

"I would be talking to their tax planning professional, my tax attorney — whoever's doing the tax planning — and make sure that my plan is airtight going into this. I'd make sure that they are taking as many deductions

as they possibly can, without running afoul of the law."

He says there are some businesses that anticipate the rescheduling will go through and they are taking aggressive approaches to their tax deductions. Other businesses, he says, don't think the reschedule will pass, and they plan to maintain their conservative tax positions.

Rescheduling would ease some of the tax burdens faced by businesses, but it could lead to some unwanted attention from the IRS as well.

"Make sure that you're still making your tax payments — both on the federal and state side," he says. "Be ready to adapt, because although it's a pretty momentous shift, there's no guarantee that it gets through and there's no guarantee that there won't be litigation following it soon thereafter."

In 2022, the IRS received \$80 billion in federal funding thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act that it used to hire thousands of new workers. Earlier this month, the agency vowed to use the funding to increase audits this year.

"As soon as this change takes effect, the IRS can look at the last three years to make sure that your taxes were being paid according to the 280E prohibitions at that point," Martinez says.



Blunts.

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!

PA Law Blocks Vet's Access to Guns

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

A Pennsylvania law that explicitly blocks medical cannabis patients from owning guns is under fire.

According to the *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, the state's Uniform Firearms Act says medical marijuana cardholders cannot own any guns. This state law is in addition to a federal law that prohibits drug users from purchasing firearms — which has led to numerous lawsuits filed against the U.S. Department of Justice.

Gun rights advocacy group the Second Amendment Foundation filed a lawsuit in January against Attorney General Merrick Garland and the directors of the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The suit includes a Pennsylvania veteran who was prescribed medical marijuana but chose to forego treatment in favor of maintaining access to his firearms.

In February, State Sen. Daniel Laughlin (R) introduced SB 1146, which would amend Pennsylvania's Uniform Firearms Act to no longer designate medical cannabis patients as unlawful users. If passed, the bill would not override federal restrictions but would make it possible for patients to buy guns if the federal policy is ever changed.

Minn. Negotiates Joint Cannabis Market With Tribes

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz (D) is reportedly in negotiations with the state's tribal nations to discuss making them major players in the state's recreational marijuana industry.



(Source: Steve Buissinne from Pixabay, cc)

Under Minnesota law, tribes are considered sovereign nations and can make their own cannabis laws as they see fit. But state leaders are looking to create a compact that would make it easier for tribes to take part in the state's recreational-use market by addressing jurisdictional issues and creating regulatory avenues for back-and-forth trade.

According to *MinnPost*, the Walz administration says negotiations are progressing in a positive direction, and officials are even discussing allowing off-reservation cannabis businesses that are owned and operated by tribal members.

Some advocates say the negotiations are taking too long, but officials say they are taking their time to ensure that whatever agreement is reached benefits all parties.

Alaska Looks to Create Psychedelic Task Force

An Alaska state Senate panel has advanced a measure that would create a psychedelics task force in the event that drugs like LSD, psilocybin or MDMA are legalized by the federal government.

The bill, sponsored by Alaska Rep. Jennie Armstrong (D), was passed only days earlier by the state's House of Representatives before the Senate Judiciary Committee passed it last week without objection. If passed into law, the bill would create a task force that would spend a year considering how to regulate and license psychedelic mental health therapy in Alaska and would publish a report with policy recommendations by Jan. 31, 2025.

The bill would not legalize the drugs, however. Instead, it would prepare policies that would be enacted if and when the federal government legalizes them.

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