

FREE

MAY 29, 2024
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The Paper.

ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

Trippin'

*We've got a couple of road trips
for you to kick off the summer*

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, OLE, 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.mariannaform.com

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

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The Paper.

ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS



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Senators Throw Support to Embattled Ivey-Soto



This story is published in partnership with New Mexico In Depth, a nonprofit local newsroom, as a part of our commitment to bringing you the best in independent news coverage that matters to Albuquerque.

By Justin Horwath,
New Mexico In Depth

Sen. Daniel Ivey-Soto is running for a fourth term despite the state Democratic Party's decision to censure and sever ties with him over sexual harassment and assault allegations, many of which were made by advocates of liberal causes.

A spokesperson for the party confirmed last week the party has continued to bar Ivey-Soto from participating in its internal activities, a position first made public last August. But the party has stopped short of calling for him to resign.

However, senior Democratic senators — including some of the most liberal — have thrown Ivey-Soto a lifeline in his contest with Heather Berghmans with big campaign contributions even as changing mores of the #MeToo era test the gender dynamics in the Roundhouse.

Some of those senators say they support Ivey-Soto in the June 4 primary election because of his open mind and attention to detail in lawmaking and parliamentary procedure. The accusations, made public in February 2022 when progressive advocate and lobbyist Marianna Anaya issued an open letter saying Ivey-Soto groped her at a teachers union reception at a downtown Santa Fe hotel in 2015, humbled the Albuquerque attorney who is known to toss invective in legislative debates, they say.

Ivey-Soto has denied Anaya's allegation — as well as another that he held up a voting rights bill Anaya lobbied for in January 2022 after she refused his advances over drinks at a downtown Santa Fe restaurant.

But Anaya's accusations set off cascading events that have Ivey-Soto scrambling to retain his Senate District 15 seat to represent Albuquerque's Northeast Heights.

An attorney retained by a

Senate ethics subcommittee to investigate a formal complaint by Anaya concluded in 2022 that probable cause existed in two of the three allegations to trigger a public hearing by the full Senate ethics committee. But the subcommittee — composed of four of his fellow senators — instead closed the case. It's unclear what other information they considered. The two Democratic senators on that subcommittee have donated to Ivey-Soto's campaign this year — Linda Lopez of Albuquerque and Benny Shendo of Jemez Pueblo.

The special counsel report was leaked to the public, and Ivey-Soto shortly after resigned his chairmanship of the Senate Rules Committee.

That committee is now chaired by Sen. Katy Duhigg of Albuquerque, who is among several women named in the special counsel's report as alleging Ivey-Soto harassed or assaulted them. Duhigg claimed that a consensual encounter in Ivey-Soto's Senate office in 2019 — before she was a state lawmaker — turned non-consensual when Ivey did not heed her requests to stop during a struggle.

"Given the nature of the allegation, if she believed her own statement to be true, she should have filed a complaint," Ivey-Soto said in an interview about Duhigg's allegation.

Ivey-Soto points to a recent decision by the State Ethics Commission to dismiss a complaint made against him — which included the allegations — as evidence of his exoneration. However, some of the alleged incidents occurred outside the agency's statute of limitations, prohibiting the ethics commission from investigating further.

Support from Senators

"My focus in the first primary report was to let people know that if I get reelected, there's a body of people that I can work with," Ivey-Soto said of his fundraising strategy in late 2023. "And so I'm very humbled and touched by the response of half of the Senate Democratic caucus who have weighed in favorably."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Weak in Review: May 29

Quick hits on this week's news bits

Rapper Curtis '50 Cent' Jackson plays Albuquerque's police chief in an upcoming film about the city's West Mesa murders.

Please, please say his character oversees the G-Unit



The Bernalillo County Clerk's Office says hundreds of duplicate absentee ballots were mistakenly mailed to voters.

Great. Now that pillow guy is going to come to Albuquerque.

A developer announced plans to revamp the old Hiway House Motel in Nob Hill.

That's cool, if having nice things in your neighborhood is your thing.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito is under fire after two flags associated with the Jan. 6 insurrection attempt were spotted outside his beach house.

He seems like the kind of guy who wears his robe to the beach.

A new study reports that New Mexico drivers are among the worst in the nation.

Wait, the study acknowledged we're part of the U.S.? Score!



UNM researchers announced they found micro plastics in a number of human and dog testes.

Congratulations scientists, you just figured out how to get frat bros to go green.

The city began construction on a new BMX track at Los Altos Park.

We can't wait to see some gnar-gnar tail twists and wheelie flips, or whatever the kids do on bikes these days.

A Santa Fe judge struck down a voter-approved tax on high end houses in the City Different.

By "Different," they mean residents will have to find a different side hustle to afford rent.

Albuquerque Public Schools announced elementary students will get both music and art classes next school year.

Music and art?! Hot damn, things are really coming up Albuquerque!

This week marks national Flip Flop Day.

We'll look past the disgusting act of wearing them anywhere besides the pool, if everyone can agree to stop calling them "thongs."



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

New Mexico In Depth counts 10 of 27 Democratic senators who have given Ivey-Soto a total of \$12,800. That's about a third of the current Democratic caucus, rather than half.

Senate Majority Leader Peter Wirth's campaign committee gave Ivey-Soto a total of \$2,000. Wirth did not return several messages from New Mexico In Depth. But approached at his downtown Santa Fe law office May 15, Wirth said he contributes the same amount to all incumbents in the Senate's Democratic caucus. Asked about the allegations against Ivey-Soto, Wirth said it is up to the voters of District 15 to determine the outcome of the race.

"I support all incumbents across the board," Wirth said, noting that Democratic Speaker of the House Javier Martinez does the same. "I don't get into who's progressive, who's more conservative. These are all Democrats [and] my job is to unify and bring us together."

Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, an Albuquerque Democrat who ranks among the chamber's most liberal members, said Ivey-Soto asked her for a donation. Sedillo Lopez was one of Ivey-Soto's University of New Mexico law school professors. She said she has been able to count on Ivey-Soto to not subvert even her most progressive bills. She gave his campaign \$500 in April.

"Whatever happened — and I believe something did — I think he learned from it," she said of the allegations. "And I've been impressed since then; he just seems to have been humbled and he's just not as arrogant as before."

Outgoing Albuquerque Sen. Jerry Ortiz y Pino said he gave Ivey-Soto \$250 in November because "there's no one — in the Senate at least — who works as hard as he does going through the bills and making sure the language is right."

"He's basically been relegated to the back bench of the Legislature," Ortiz y Pino said. "A man with his seniority and experience should not have been punished that way."

Ivey-Soto also received \$5,000 from Sen. Leo Jaramillo, \$3,500 from Sen. Joseph Cervantes, \$500 from Sen. Benny Shendo, \$500 from Sen. Bill Tallman, and smaller



Sen. Daniel Ivey-Soto, left, chats with Senate Majority Leader Peter Wirth on the Senate floor during the 2024 legislative session. (Justin Horwath / New Mexico In Depth)

donations from Sen. Linda Lopez, Sen. Liz Stefanics, and Sen. Brenda McKenna. Tallman and McKenna are not running for re-election.

Tallman and McKenna also donated to Berghmans.

Ivey-Soto's headwind

Ivey-Soto's opponent, Heather Berghmans, has outstripped him in fundraising by almost 3 to 1, forcing Ivey-Soto to draw down from his balance saved from prior election cycles. About 20% of her donations come from sitting lawmakers, mostly members of the House where she was a fundraiser for the Democratic caucus under two Democratic House speakers, for whom she also served as a policy analyst during legislative sessions. (Now a self-employed consultant, she would not disclose to New Mexico In Depth her current client list.)

Her contributions include \$5,500 from Speaker of the House Javier Martinez and \$1,000 from Brian Egolf, the former Democratic Speaker of the House. She received \$2,000 from the Lobo Leadership Fund, a PAC aligned with U.S. Sen. Martin Heinrich, and \$5,500 from Duhigg.

Anaya, who is running for the House District 18 seat to represent an area that includes the University of New Mexico, donated \$1,000 to Berghmans' campaign in October.

In the wake of Anaya's

allegations in 2022, members of eight different advocacy groups released a public letter outlining other instances of alleged mistreatment of women by Ivey-Soto. (Ivey-Soto said those women should have filed complaints with the Legislature. The special counsel found the witnesses against Ivey-Soto to be credible but many women were hesitant to speak publicly because "their careers would suffer or that their colleagues would deem them untrustworthy.")

Representatives for the Center for Civic Policy, a progressive advocacy group, and its political arm, the Center for Civic Action, signed the letter. The Center for Civic Policy created a website with the goal to "stop" Ivey-Soto. The Center for Civic Action contributed \$1,000 to Berghmans' campaign in September.

In March, Steve Lipscomb, a Santa Fe lawyer who is the founder of the World Series of Poker, donated \$2,500 to Berghmans' campaign. Lipscomb is married to Miranda Viscoli, co-president of New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence, and one of the women who made allegations about Ivey-Soto to the special counsel, saying he screamed and cursed at her during a 2017 encounter in the Roundhouse.

Ivey-Soto said he did not want to litigate the various allegations against him in the media.

"The fact that this person

continues to be a part of our Legislature and is running again is so morally repugnant that I hope everyone will do everything they possibly can ... to say, 'It's not OK, it's not OK to abuse women in the Roundhouse where government conducts business in our state,'" Lipscomb said in an interview.

The current composition of the Senate is 11 women to 31 men. In an interview she drew few policy contrasts with Ivey-Soto, but said there exists a "difference in how we treat people and the way Senator Ivey-Soto conducts himself in the Roundhouse."

"The Senate tends to skew older and more male, so I'd like to change that gender demographic," Berghmans said.

"I do think there's a big issue difference," between Berghmans and Ivey-Soto, Lan Sena, policy director of the Center for Civic Policy, said when asked about the policy differences between the candidates. "I mean, if he truly supported bodily autonomy, he would have resigned."

Ivey-Soto argued there is no liberal cause that he does not support and that he has been an advocate on women's issues. Asked why he pressed on as the allegations against him eroded his political support, Ivey-Soto said, "My experience is there aren't a lot of people [in the Roundhouse] who are fixated on caring for people who don't have power." Fighting for such people "is more important to me than my personal dignity."



Canteen's 30th Anniversary Party

Canteen Brewhouse (2381 Aztec Rd. NE) is celebrating its 30th anniversary. How is that possible? Well, the hop-heads at Canteen have been in the business of making "fly brews" since 1994. In honor of the achievement, the business is hosting a weekend of '90s-themed events. On Thursday, May 30, at 6 p.m. it's a Pre-Anniversary Party with Crazy Bird. On Friday, May 31, at 6 p.m. there's a '90s Game Night. It all comes to a head on Saturday, June 1, with Canteen's 30th Anniversary Party. From noon to 10 p.m. there's music, games, giveaways, '90s merch, food specials and plenty of beer on tap. There's even a prize for the best '90s costume! Music lineup includes Le Chat Lunatique (1 p.m.), Squash Blossom Boys (3 p.m.) Doso Dirtbags (5 p.m.) and Carli's Angels (7 p.m.). There's no cover charge to get in. Sunday, June 2, closes out the weekend with a Dirty Thirty Bloody Mary Bar from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 30

Dance

Friday Night Square Dancing \$8-\$9 7-9 pm Albuquerque Square Dance Center 4915 Hawkins St NE

Drink

Two Boys Donut Hole & Beer Pairing \$18 5-10 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

Exhibit

Pueblo Baseball: Stitching Our Community Together 9 am-5 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW

Reflective Presence: The Art of Jesse Littlebird & Jonathan Loretto 9 am-5 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW

Games

Brain Gang Trivia 7-9 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

Canteen Pre-Anniversary Party w/ Crazy Bird 6-9 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Charles Wesley Godwin 8 pm Revel Entertainment Center 4720 Alexander Blvd NE

GUILD
cinema

ECLECTIC CINEMA 7 DAYS A WEEK

Drive My Car director: **EVIL DOES NOT EXIST**
Fri-Mon May 31-June 3 3:45, 7:45

Wild documentary **QUEEN OF THE DEUCE**
Fri-Mon May 31-June 3 6:00

Raunchy polyamory comedy **SEX-POSITIVE**
Friday May 31 10:30pm

Arthouse Classics Series:
Sci-fi masterpiece **SOLARIS (1972)**
Sat-Sun June 1-2 12:30pm

Crazy B-movie **SORORITY BABES IN THE SLIMEBALL BOWL-A-RAMA (1988)**
Saturday June 1 10:30pm

FEMALE DIRECTORS IN PLAIN SIGHT
Tue-Thu June 4-6 3:30, 8:00

Cattle rancher gone vegan: **ROWDY GIRL**
Tue-Thu June 4-6 6:15

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Submit it to our online calendar and you may even see your event in print!

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FRIDAY, MAY 31

Johnny Lloyd LIVE 6:30-8:30 pm
M'tucci's Twenty Five 4939 Pan
American Fwy

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

May Be Fern with Annestasia
and Firebird FM 8-11 pm JUNO
brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street
Northwest

The Wilder Blue \$15 8-10 pm
Revel Entertainment Center 4720
Alexander Blvd NE

Whitey Morgan & The 78's \$25
8-11 pm Launchpad 618 Central
Avenue Southwest

XOTIX \$10-\$13 9 pm-1:30 am
Effex NightClub 420 Central
Avenue Southwest

Sports

Albuquerque Isotopes vs.
Oklahoma City Baseball Club \$15-
\$29 6:30-9:30 pm Isotopes Park

Comedy

Becky Robinson \$25-\$30 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 \$10-\$12 8-9 pm The Box
Performance Space 114 Gold Ave
SW

Dance

Casa Flamenca The Best Tablao
Shows \$40 8-9:30 pm Casa
Flamenca 401 Rio Grande
Boulevard NW

Square Dance Open House 7-9
pm Albuquerque Square Dance
Center 4915 Hawkins St NE

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

Tlacayolt Dance Group
(Chichimeca Mexica Azteca)
2-3 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural
Center 2401 12th Street NW

Games

'90s Game Night 6-9 pm Canteen
Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road
Northeast

Music

Blot Xenia with Gilead Rising,
Cult Sister, Taillight Serenade \$5
8-11:30 pm JUNO brewery + cafe
+ art 1501 1st Street Northwest

Candlelight: A Tribute to Queen
and More \$32 9-10:15 pm The
Clyde Hotel 330 Tijeras Avenue
Northwest

Casa Flamenca 2024 Summer
Tablao Season Opens \$40 8-9:30
pm Casa Flamenca 401 Rio
Grande Blvd. NW

Eliza Gilkyson \$28-\$35 7:30-9:30
pm South Broadway Cultural
Center 1025 Broadway Blvd SE

Mineral Hill 8-10 pm Tractor
Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth
St. NW

Slim Belly Blues Band 7-9 pm
Marble Brewery NE Heights 9904
Montgomery Blvd NE

Strange Mix \$10 8 pm-1 am
Insideout 622 Central Ave SW

Terminal Nation - Price of Life
Tour Kick-Off \$10-\$20 7 pm-12
am Launchpad 618 Central Ave
SW

We House Fridays f/ Tobehonest
\$10 9 pm-2 am Effex NightClub
420 Central Avenue Southwest

Performance

Kinky Boots \$25-\$28 7:30-9:30
pm Musical Theatre Southwest
6320B Domingo NE

The Outsider \$10-\$24 7:30-10 pm
Adobe Theater 9813 4th St NW

Sports

Albuquerque Isotopes vs.
Oklahoma City Baseball Club \$15-
\$29 6:30-9:30 pm Isotopes Park

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Class / Workshop

DJ & Sewing programs from
Warehouse 505 12-3 pm
Warehouse 505 202 Central Ave
SE



TIM EICHENBERG

DEMOCRAT BERNALILLO COUNTY TREASURER

PAID FOR BY TIM EICHENBERG FOR COUNTY TREASURER - VIVIAN WEIDNER, TREASURER

- Former State Treasurer
- Former County Treasurer
- Former State Senator
- Current AMAFCA Board Member

Bernalillo County's Most Experienced Candidate

Tim Eichenberg was elected in 2014 as the 29th State Treasurer of New Mexico, and was reelected in 2018 for another four-year term. Raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico, he attended Albuquerque Public Schools and graduated from the University of New Mexico.

TIM EICHENBERG

BERNALILLO COUNTY TREASURER



DEMOCRAT

VOTE JUNE 4

PAID FOR BY TIM EICHENBERG FOR COUNTY TREASURER VIVIAN L. WEIDNER, TREASURER (c) 2024 TIM EICHENBERG FOR COUNTY TREASURER

IPEC Farmer Training 8-10 am
Indian Pueblo Entrepreneur
Complex 2401 12th St NW

NM Kids Matter Presents: Unity
in Community - The Importance
of Creating a Diverse Future
for Our Children 1-3 pm UNM
Science & Technology Park,
Rotunda Room 801 University
Blvd SE

Comedy

Alex Benton Presents: Stand-up
Comedy! \$10 8-10 pm Orpheum
Community Hub 500 2nd Street
Southwest

Becky Robinson \$25-\$30 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 \$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

Hannah Ulibarri Memorial Bike
Run to Support Mental Health
Services at CNM \$20 11 am-2 pm
Indian Motorcycle 4509 Alameda
Blvd NE

Polly's Run: A Call to Runners,
Donors, and Supporters in the
Battle Against Pancreatic Cancer
\$5-\$45 8:30-10 am Tiguex Park
1800 Mountain Road Northwest

Summer at the Marketplace: a
patio pop-up event 9 am-1 pm
Poulin Marketplace 8600 Pan
American Fwy NE

Dance

Casa Flamenca The Best Tablao
Shows \$40 8-9:30 pm Casa
Flamenca 401 Rio Grande
Boulevard NW

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

Tlacayolt Dance Group
(Chichimeca Mexica Azteca) 11
am-12 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural
Center 2401 12th Street NW

Tlacayolt Dance Group
(Chichimeca Mexica Azteca)
2-3 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural
Center 2401 12th Street NW

Family/Kids

Family, Fit, Fun Fest 9 am-12 pm
North Domingo Baca Park 7521
Carmel Ave NE

Festival

Caribbean Celebration 12-6 pm
Manzano Mesa Park 501 Elizabeth
St SE

Evening in Paradise 2024 9 am-2
pm Paradise Hills Park 5801
Paradise Blvd NW

Literature/Poetry

James C. Wilson Reading & Book
Signing 1:30-3:30 pm Treasure
House Books & Gifts 2012 S Plaza
St NW A

Music

Broadway Awake and Aware
\$12-\$25 7-9 pm South Broadway
Cultural Center 1025 Broadway
Blvd SE

Brooks & Dunn: Reboot
Tour 2024 7-10 pm Isleta
Amphitheater 5601 University
Blvd SE (Formerly Hard Rock
Casino Albuquerque Presents the
Pavilion)

Burning Spear \$59 7-10 pm Villa
Hispana at EXPO New Mexico
324-398 San Pedro Dr NE

Canteen's 30th Anniversary Party
12-10 pm Canteen Brewhouse
2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Casa Flamenca 2024 Summer
Tablao Season Opens \$40 8-9:30
pm Casa Flamenca 401 Rio
Grande Blvd. NW

Chiquis – Diamantes Tour
\$59-\$398 8-10 pm Revel
Entertainment Center 4720
Alexander Blvd NE

Guitar Wolf \$17 8 pm-12 am
Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW

Radio Free ABQ 7-9 pm Tractor
Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE

Raffa FL 9:30 pm-2 am Electric
Playhouse 5201 Ouray Rd. NW

Temple of Sound Presents:
A Rainbow in the Dark - An
Industrial Celebration of Pride 8
pm-1 am Lizard Tail Brewing Nob
Hill 3417 Central Ave. NE Suite C



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- Gloria

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State Representative House District 18

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Well-known member of several community groups. There is no higher calling than serving my community.

MY VISION FOR BERNALILLO COUNTY

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Ensuring every dollar is accounted for and every financial decision is made with the community in mind.

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

Leveraging technology and best practices to improve efficiency and service delivery.

FINANCIAL HEALTH

Strengthening our county's financial foundation to support essential services and promote economic growth.

VOLUNTEER



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Bernalillo County Treasurer!**

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sumthin sumthin \$20 9 pm-12
am Revel Entertainment Center
4720 Alexander Blvd NE

Performance

Kinky Boots \$25-\$28 7:30-9:30
pm Musical Theatre Southwest
6320B Domingo NE

Pride on the Sky Deck \$15 7-11
pm Marble Brewery 111 Marble
Ave NW

Show Your Colors: A Pride Kickoff
Party 12-10 pm Green Jeans Food
Hall 3600 Cutler Ave. NE

The Outsider \$10-\$24 7:30-10 pm
Adobe Theater 9813 4th St NW

Sports

Albuquerque Isotopes vs.
Oklahoma City Baseball Club \$15-
\$29 6:30-9:30 pm Isotopes Park

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Class / Workshop

Ayurvedic Yoga in the Park \$6-\$15
8:30-9:30 am Wildflower Park
San Mateo & Eagle Rock NE

Cooling Your Summer Garden
10 am-12 pm Rio Grande
Community Farm 1701 Montañito
Rd NW

Dance

Casa Flamenca The Best Tablao
Shows \$40 7-8:30 pm Casa
Flamenca 401 Rio Grande
Boulevard NW

Tlacayolt Dance Group
(Chichimeca Mexica Azteca) 11
am-12 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural
Center 2401 12th Street NW

Tlacayolt Dance Group
(Chichimeca Mexica Azteca)
2-3 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural
Center 2401 12th Street NW

Drink

The Ultimate Local Bloody Mary
1-6 pm Tractor Brewing Wells
Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

Film

The Historic Lobo Theater
Presents: RENT \$10 7 pm The
Historic Lobo Theater - Lounge
& Event Venue 3013 Central Ave
NE

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

Markets

Rail Yard Market: Equity &
Activism Day 10 am-2 pm
Albuquerque Rail Yards 722 3rd
St SW

Miscellaneous

Dark Ambient Sound Bath:
Exorcism \$30-\$35 7:30-9:30 pm
Black Wall Gallery & Events 2125
San Mateo Blvd NE

Music

Broadway Awake and Aware
\$12-\$25 4-6 pm South Broadway
Cultural Center 1025 Broadway
Blvd SE

Burque Rock City II \$50 12-12
pm Launchpad 618 Central Ave
SW

Casa Flamenca 2024 Summer
Tablao Season Opens \$40 7-8:30
pm Casa Flamenca 401 Rio
Grande Blvd. NW

Sunday Jazz Jam 5-7:30 pm
Flatiron Bites & Brews 6001 San
Mateo Blvd NE





Summer Movie Preview

What's going to flop and what's going to hit it big

(Source: Focus Features)

By Jared Rasic, Last Word Features

So here we are, creeping into another summer movie season, which will bring a deluge of potential blockbusters for which studios have invested the biggest portion of their marketing budgets in hopes of landing their next four-quadrant smash like “Barbie” or “Oppenheimer.”

If you’d asked me a month ago, I would have bet that the Ryan Gosling/Emily Blunt romantic action/comedy *The Fall Guy* would be the first surprise breakout of the year (not counting existing franchise sequels like *Dune: Part Two* and *Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire*). But its underperformance once again proves that I’m terrible about predicting what general audiences care about.

Still, I will keep trying because at some point the law of averages means I will eventually get better at my summer cinematic prognostications. So let’s look at the movies of the next few months that I’m excited about and I’ll guess if it’ll catch on culturally or be ignored by patrons across the world.

May 10- *Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes*: The *Planet of the Apes* franchise has (almost) always delivered thought provoking and exciting speculative fiction with groundbreaking effects, indelible

characters and astonishing world building. In fact, in my review of the last film in the series, 2017’s *War of the Planet of the Apes*, I compared it to “Lawrence of Arabia” and “Apocalypse Now,” so I’m obviously hyped for this new entry in the series, which is set 300 years after “War.”

Will it Flop?: The last one made close to half a billion, so I don’t think it will flop, but it will probably underperform due to a full seven years since the last entry in the franchise.

May 24- *Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga*: This acts as a spinoff and prequel to 2015’s *Fury Road*, which over the last nine years has become cemented as a bonafide classic and is widely considered to be one of the best action thrillers of all time. There are such massive expectations for *Furiosa*, I wonder if it’s possible to live up to them no matter how great the movie might be. George Miller is a visionary, so I trust the hell out of him.

Will it Flop?: *Fury Road* actually didn’t make that much money, but the cultural footprint of the film has grown immeasurably over the years, so I wouldn’t be surprised if this (along with the added Chris Hemsworth benefit) becomes a surprise hit.

June 14- *Inside Out 2*: The first one is beloved by everyone that saw it and taught an entire generation of children a new vocabulary for how to articulate feelings they didn’t or couldn’t understand. Can a sequel capture that same lightning in a bottle? Even after a few misfires, I still have faith that Pixar knows what made the original so special.

Will it Flop?: This will make a billion dollars and hopefully deserve every penny.

June 21- *The Bikeriders*: This will be a pretty big test for actor Austin Butler to see if he can pack butts in seats for a ’60s-set biker drama also featuring Tom Hardy and Jodie Comer, directed by the great Jeff “Take Shelter” Nichols.

Will it Flop?: So hard. So very hard. Period dramas haven’t been doing as well as they used to lately. The actors will be fine, but Nichols might end up in director’s jail for a while.

June 21- *Kinds of Kindness*: Yorgos Lanthimos and Emma Stone are coming off of one of their greatest successes (*Poor Things*) with this dark anthology that somehow manages to look stranger than his last few films. Lanthimos and Stone are brilliant and with a cast that includes Willem Dafoe, Jesse Plemons and Margaret Qualley, the film

is going to be worth watching no matter what.

Will it Flop?: I hope not, but the advertising for this hasn’t done a very good job selling what exactly the film is about and what audiences can expect. This really might slip beneath the radar unless the finished product is so good that critics won’t quit championing the film.

June 28- *A Quiet Place: Day One*: The trailer for this isn’t great, but I’ve enjoyed the film series so far and director Michael Sarnoski was responsible for *Pig*, which was my favorite film of 2021. His deeply empathetic filmmaking could make this not just a great horror movie, but a great movie in general.

Will it Flop?: The second film made quite a bit less than the first one did, so it wouldn’t surprise me if this one comes and goes pretty quietly. There hasn’t been much marketing for it so far, so here’s hoping we’ll see more promotion for the film.

June 28- *Horizon: An American Saga-Chapter One*: Can Kevin Costner still pack theaters for a three-hour western? Based on the popularity of *Yellowstone*, it certainly seems like he can, but this is just the first chapter in a two-part epic. There’s a lot riding on this one for Costner and his 100-million-dollar budget, so we’ll see.

Will it Flop?: There’s no buzz on this, and for a giant movie being released in two parts, several months apart, there needs to be word of mouth for this to break even. It might be a flop, friends.

There are other, smaller movies I’m really rooting for in July and August, such as the third film in Ti West’s *X* film series *MaXXXine* (July 5), *Longlegs* (July 12), a deeply creepy looking thriller starring Nicolas Cage, and the very trippy looking *Cuckoo* (Aug. 9). But these are all movies aimed at my particular type of weird that might flop hugely. Honestly, at the end of the day, the quality of a film has nothing to do with how much money it makes. The only reason it’s interesting to pay attention is because it can help you chart the future of cinema. *Oppenheimer* makes a ton of money? Expect to see more three-hour-long biopics. *Barbie* makes a billion? Expect more female-led looks at capitalism. We can all become movie futurists if we pay close enough attention.

Trippin' on the Turquoise Trail



State Road 14 is a ride through New Mexico history

Madrid, NM

By Devin O' Leary, The Paper.

Turquoise Trail: The very name conjures up images of Southwestern treasure waiting to be unearthed. New Mexico State Road 14 is a 54-mile stretch connecting the Albuquerque area to the Santa Fe area. Known to locals as “the back way” and to tourists worldwide as “The Turquoise Trail,” this picturesque path is a National Scenic Byway that passes beneath Sandia Crest and winds through small towns like Golden, Madrid and Cerrillos. It's the perfect day trip out of Albuquerque as it's close by and proves welcome, mountainous relief from the city's summer heat.

N.M. 14 picks up just off I-40 on the east side of the Sandia Mountain as the highway squeezes through Carnuel and

Tijeras. It starts in Cedar Crest, home to the famed Tinkertown Museum (the life's work of folk artist Ross Ward) and the popular Burger Boy restaurant (go for the double!). From there, the road twists and turns northward, passing Sandia Park and the Paako Ridge Golf Club. Curving away from the Sandias, the Turquoise Trail soon threads through the micro-sized town of Golden, where you can take a break at the Henderson Store (family owned since 1918 and your first stop for Native American jewelry, rugs and pottery). You can also drive by Golden's colorful Bottle House and debate whether a house with a fence covered in bottles actually constitutes a “bottle house.”

About 25 miles up the Turquoise Trail, you'll hit the halfway point of Madrid. This

old mining town was colonized by hippie artists in the 1970s and transformed itself from ghost town to tourist destination. On weekends the town's sole road fills up with motorcycle riders, drawn by the promise of green chile cheeseburgers and beers at iconic watering hole the Mine Shaft Tavern (which also manages to host the Madrid Film Festival, The Rhymecraft Hip Hop Dance Party, the Crawdaddy Blues Festival and countless rock/folk/blues bands). If you want to avoid the leather-clad crowds, there's also coffee at Java Junction and ice cream at the Jezebel Gallery Soda Fountain.

After some refreshments, wander down the main drag to check out Madrid's collection of arts and crafts galleries, including Trading Bird Gallery, Indigo Gallery, 10PM Steampunk Studio, Johnsons of Madrid,

Chumani Gallery, Belle of the West Art Gallery and Range West. Another entertaining highlight is Maggie's Diner, which you may recognize as a pivotal set from the 2007 John Travolta movie *Wild Hogs*. It's now a souvenir shop filled with T-shirts, postcards and plenty of *Wild Hogs* merchandise. If you've got kids, Connie's Photo Park on the north end of town is a must. For a small donation, the whole family can take fun snapshots with a variety of colorful, painted backdrops.

North of Madrid, N.M. 14 continues on through some stunning rock formations and a wide variety of high desert flowers. Along the way, take in even more art at the Museum of Encaustic Art, Hat Ranch Gallery and the Jennifer & Kevin Box Studio and Sculpture Garden (home to their world-famous, large-scale “OrigamiInTheGarden” sculptures).

Near the end of the Turquoise Trail is the village of Los Cerrillos. With its dirt streets and adobe buildings, it's a picturesque throwback to the Old West. Several Hollywood movies were shot in Cerrillos, including *The Nine Lives of Elfege Baca*, *Outrageous Fortune* and *Young Guns* (look for a commemorative sign above the old Wortley Hotel on First Street). If that gets you in the Old West mood, Broken Saddle Riding Co. rents “smooth-riding Tennessee walkers.” After a trip in the saddle, head to the Black Bird Saloon for food and libations. These days countless artists and craftspeople have made the town their home. Several official galleries and smaller home studios dot the village. On the west end, the Casa Grande Trading Post, Mining Museum & Petting Zoo will give you a history lesson and a chance to look at some locally mined turquoise — which is the perfect way to wrap up your trip along the Turquoise Trail.

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Truth or Consequences offers plenty for tourists looking for a day trip, but don't sleep on the fishing adventures at the nearby reservoir

By Michael Hodock, The Paper.

Truth or Consequences is known for its hot springs, historic buildings, and shopping plazas that resemble something from the Old West. If a trip into times past doesn't sound like a convincing enough reason to make the trek, a short drive down the road to Elephant Butte offers some top-notch catfishing — and not the internet kind.

The Butte is known for boating and watersports, and during the Fourth of July, upwards of 100,000 people gather to watch the fireworks display reflected in the water. New Mexico residents who have been around long enough have likely heard a legend or two about catfish lurking in the depths by Elephant Butte Dam that are as big as Volkswagen Beetles. While not every fishing story can be believed, a quick scroll through local social media forums will provide photographic evidence of 30-plus pound blues yanked out of the lake.



Elephant Butte (Michael Hodock / The Paper.)

Catfishing can be tricky in any large lake if you don't know where they're hiding, but the Butte has fishing guides for hire who can help newbies narrow down the search for those big blue monsters. Kris Flores at Muddy River Catfishing Guide Services will steer novice anglers in the right direction. For those looking for bass, the lake is full of large and smallmouths, white bass so plentiful the water "boils" as they come to the surface and recently-introduced striped bass that have grown big enough

to tip the scales at 30 pounds this year. Crappie, walleye and even carp enthusiasts won't be disappointed by the potential to hook some big, beautiful tasty fish.

A big propane tank painted to look like a fishing bobber outside Bud's Bait Shop is one of the first things drivers might see as they exit I-25 and head toward the City of Elephant Butte. Bud's is the spot for extra-large hooks and tackle. Their "medium" sized minnows are large enough to entice a lunker, and the

salamanders known as water dogs at Bud's are the largest specimens of the unique live bait that this experienced fisherman has seen in person.

There is, of course, plenty to do in Truth or Consequences before or after a full day on the water.

The marquee on El Cortez movie theater advertises some quintessential older horror movies and the calligraphy blazoned above the entrance to Xochi's Bookstore gives the building a rustic, vintage look.

The small city named after a 1950s game show also offers a handful of quaint little spots to grab a bite, such as The Great Full Grill, which is about as tiny as a restaurant gets with a handful of dishes that hit the spot after a long day of casting lines, such as a green chile cheeseburger, fish and chips and a portobello mushroom burger.

The two-hour jaunt from Downtown Albuquerque to the Butte makes the area an easy destination for a day trip. But for those looking for a longer getaway, Truth or Consequences also offers a plethora of lodges and motels equipped with natural hot spring-fed tubs — where the only consequence is extended relaxation and rejuvenation.

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Ask the Experts: Upgrading Your Swamp Cooler to Cool A/C For Hotter Summers

Sponsored by Kidzz Mechanical

It is the time of year when many Albuquerque homeowners begin the arduous task of opening up their swamp cooler and wondering if this is the year they should finally convert to A/C.

To learn what the process really looks like, and how new financing options help homeowners manage, we asked Chad Redford, CEO at Kidzz Mechanical, an Albuquerque-based HVAC firm with more than 200 5-Star reviews on Google about today's conversion process.

Chad, a lot of homes around Albuquerque were built with swamp coolers, but those don't seem to work as well as they used to. Why is that?

The biggest issue with swamp coolers in our climate is that 10 or 20 years ago our monsoon season occurred in late August/early September. Now in recent years we get our monsoon season in early/mid July.

When the rains come the relative humidity increases from our usual 5-10% humidity to 25-35% relative humidity. When the relative humidity increases to over 20% a swamp cooler

only has the ability to change the temperature or air by 6-7°.

This change in climate has encouraged many people to convert to refrigerated air so that they have the ability to stay comfortable during the hottest days of the year.

And, we all know that swamp coolers can lower inside temperatures by up to 20-degrees. On our hottest days, inside temps can still be unbearable. The National Weather Service shows us that ABQ is seeing more high temperature days each year.

How long does it take to upgrade or install a new air conditioner?

In most cases we can install a new air conditioning system in one day.

Many people think they can't afford an upgrade, but you have lots of reviews online from customers who did. What financing is available now?

At one time, homeowners had to pay the full cost before installing or upgrading to a new unit. But we've made upgrading more accessible.

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• If I'm not ready for an upgrade yet, do you handle smaller jobs like opening my swamp cooler?

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Mining for Metal in a Musical Desert

Beloved booking agent wants to put Albuquerque metal scene on the map

By Michael Hodock, The Paper.

Local punks and metalheads have held Roman Barham in high regard for bringing high-profile music acts to small venues such as the Launchpad for almost 20 years. One of his contributions to the scene, the annual Burque Rock City festival is set to wreak havoc on the Duke City for a second year in a row. Originally from Mountainair, and an accomplished drummer and vocalist in his own right, Barham's metal mission is to bring some attention and excitement to the state, and Downtown Albuquerque will be ground zero for the explosive event.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

The Paper.: What is Burque Rock City?

Roman Barham: "Burque Rock City" was an old saying back in the '90s when the scene was popping like fuck — I'm not saying that the scene is not popping now. I wanted to bring it back because it really meant a lot to me.

What makes the fest unique?

I bring the worldwide element to this fest. I've done the Monolith on the Mesa [festival] for years. I wanna go big, so I try to bring big bands that have never played here before. This is the Albuquerque version, or spin-off of Monolith.

This is the second annual Burque Rock City fest. What did you learn from last year and what do you hope to bring to this year's event?

I learned that Albuquerque is definitely a metal city. I know not everyone is a fan of the heavy rock and stoner rock and doom. So not only death metal, [but] black metal and stoner metal, I wanted to bring a big realm of metal.

Which acts are in the more extreme genre?

Profanatica from New York. They're one of the first American black metal bands. And, of course, Weed eater — they're the weed-metal veterans of the U.S. Rebelmatic is Ol' Dirty



Roman Barham has been booking music in Albuquerque for nearly two decades. On June 2, he is hosting the second annual Burque Rock City festival. (Source: Roman Barham)

Bastard's brother's band — it's like New York hardcore [meets] Bad Brains. The original lineup of Noisear is playing and that's pretty epic because Noisear are from Albuquerque. Absynth Minded is Leonard from Cephalic Carnage's new band with his friend Keith Sanchez, so I'm excited to see them.

How are the venues set up?

Insideout (622 Central Ave. SW) will have a stage and Launchpad (618 Central Ave. SW) will have a stage. It's set up to where there's no overlap and everyone can

see every band. I'm gonna have separate tickets for separate venues here this week too. If someone wants to buy [tickets] to just one venue they don't have to buy the whole package.

Is there a theme or are there similarities between the acts at Burque Rock City this year?

There's no theme. It's just all-out fucking metal!

I saw that there's a pre show this year.

I wanted to do a collab with a DIY venue and I'm good friends with Aaron and Santana from Ren's Den (900 4th St SW). The music scene right now is blossoming and we all need to work together to continue the momentum. I wanted to make the lineup all local bands and from different heavy music genres.

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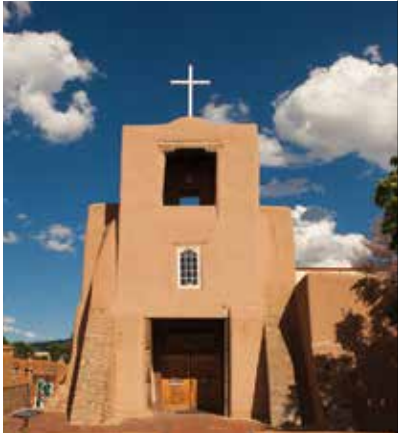
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Do Your Research Before You Vote

“We need bold solutions, drastic overhauls and serious reforms,” writes a candidate for the Legislature in an op-ed article.

Bold, huh? Boy, that’s new and exciting. Oh, wait. It isn’t. It’s a standard cliché for everybody who runs for office.

This particular candidate wrote an entire op-ed filled with platitudes and generalizations. Not a single specific policy position was stated. I’m not giving this candidate’s name because it’s not my intent to embarrass the candidate, but rather to remind voters to look further. Lots of candidates do what this candidate did. It’s politically fuzzy language. It’s Republicans saying all Democrats are radical and Democrats saying all Republicans are extremists.

The early voting polls are open and the primary election is in full swing. It’s up to us voters to do a bit of homework to find out about the candidates before we fill in the little black circles on our ballots.

In a primary, we may find that candidates of the same party

have similar political views, so what matters may be their prior professional experience, their competencies and their likely ability to deliver. Especially in the Legislature, professional backgrounds matter because legislators bring their knowledge to their understanding of legislation.

Your criteria in a primary might be quite different from your concerns in the general election. It might be to pick the candidate who has the best chance of winning in November.

To oversimplify, in some Democratic primary contests the distinction is moderate versus progressive. The moderate argument is that, in a mixed district, by nominating a progressive in the primary, you may be handing the district to the Republican nominee in November.

In some Republican primaries, the distinction might be today’s Republican orthodoxy versus the old moderate Republican approach or any

other variation.

In another recent op-ed, legislative candidate Nicole Chavez identified herself as the endorsed chosen successor of legislator Bill Rehm, who is not seeking reelection. She said she will follow in his footsteps.

Rehm has been an anti-crime champion. So we know what Chavez is going to prioritize. We also might note that Rehm sponsored many good bills that didn’t get anywhere, so a voter in her district might ask her how she plans to improve on his track record.

The candidates in this district have made it easy for voters to figure out who’s who. Chavez is competing with two other Republicans. One is Sara Jane Allen, a local founder of the conservative group Moms for Liberty, a national organization that has been active in school board races. You can look up that group and find out its priorities. The third is Patrick Husted, who doesn’t appear to have a website (at least, I couldn’t find one) but

who has supplied answers on vote411.org. There’s no Democrat running for this seat, so the winner of the primary will be the next representative.

In every race you’re voting for Democrat against Democrat or Republican against Republican. You could vote if you are a registered Libertarian, but I doubt there are any contests with two Libertarians running against each other.

And if you are an independent or “decline to state” registered voter, you can vote in this primary by changing your registration literally at the last minute to Republican or Democrat, then changing it back again after this election. It’s a clumsy process but it’s New Mexico’s reluctant first step toward open primaries.

Unlike the general election, the primary ballot is short. It is not cluttered with bond issues or proposed amendments to the state constitution. It shouldn’t take you too long to figure out your choices.

And your vote will help determine how your local community is governed.

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Farm Bill Advocates to Congress: Get a Move On

The U.S. House Committee on Agriculture recently delivered a draft farm bill. It was eight months after the old farm bill, about to expire, had to be extended. This \$1.5 trillion, 942-page tome has a lot to like, but it's missing some key provisions important to New Mexico. And it's hung up in partisan scrapping.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and House Dems chided the committee for cutting the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, by \$30 billion over 10 years. The program (formerly food stamps) helps more than 40 million low-income families nationally and upwards of 530,000 in New Mexico.

U.S. Rep. Gabe Vasquez, a member of the House Committee on Agriculture, complained about "House Republicans' partisan approach to the farm bill that would exacerbate food insecurity in New Mexico's second congressional district, where one in four children are food insecure."

SNAP benefits in the state would decline by \$340 million, he said.

Another sticking point is that the bill is missing a provision that keeps acequias eligible for insurance, which is important in a time of drought-caused lower crop yields. The New Mexico congressional delegation is going to the mat on this one.

Vilsack also opposes a restriction that he says would tie the hands of the Commodity Credit Corporation in responding to natural disasters affecting farmers and instead shift the responsibility for disaster assistance to Congress, Source New Mexico reported.

"There's no assurance that such bills get passed," Vilsack said. "And secondly, oftentimes Congress underfunds those bills, as was the case so recently with the 2023 situation disasters."

House Agriculture Chairman GT Thompson, a Pennsylvania Republican, said in a statement that the bill makes "historic investments" in agriculture. Regarding natural disasters, he said, "The committee is reasserting Congress' authority over the Commodity Credit Corporation, which will bring

reckless administrative spending under control and provides funding for key bipartisan priorities in the farm bill."

The Senate, even slower than the House, recently released summaries of key provisions of its farm bill but not the full text of a bill or its estimated cost. It would boost SNAP eligibility.

Thanks to Sen. Ben Ray Lujan, a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, acequias would be eligible for the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, which insures farmers who aren't eligible for other kinds of federal crop insurance.

Each party accuses the other of trying to slow or derail the bill.

Thompson believes, from the large number of favorable statements from advocacy groups, that the House bill has broad support. But in reading through the statements, I find they're less a full throated endorsement of the House bill and more of a comment on what they like along with a nudge to finish. Between the lines what I saw was great frustration with the

time this bill has consumed and great care to not offend either party.

For example, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association likes the focus on voluntary conservation programs and animal health provisions.

But many groups want to see a sense of urgency in Congress.

"It's too important to wait," said the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Both the National Cotton Council and the U.S. Peanut Federation pleaded with Congress "to move forward in a bipartisan manner."

Larry Reagan, president of the New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau, wrote in a recent op ed about how his own participation in farm bill programs, to the betterment of his business and his land. Stepping lightly to avoid treading on partisan arguments, he begins by saying, "I can't stress enough how vital it is that Congress swiftly pass a farm bill this year." He ends by asking readers to contact their elected officials and "urge them to pass a farm bill now."

In other words, stop arguing and do something.

All She Wrote



Sherry Robinson



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An Evening at the Drug Market

A physical illicit market brings folks together, but could spell trouble for sanctioned businesses

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

It's early evening in Albuquerque when a line forms outside an indistinct brown building in the southeast part of town. The doors open at 6 p.m. and music comes flooding out into the parking lot. Beyond the threshold, colored lights swirl and bass throbs. A festively dressed woman waves the crowd in. With a big smile, she says, "Check out the \$70 ounces at the green table up front!"

Welcome to Albuquerque's open-air drug market — the well-known secret that has been flying under the radar and avoiding government intrusion for several months.

Various jars full of glittery weed sit on the green table that the barker spoke about. All of the strains are selling at different price points, depending on quality. The \$70 ounces are made up of an impressive mid-shelf Trainwreck — comparable to the weed you can find in dispensaries only a short walking distance away.

Black lights and lasers give the room a glowing party vibe while a live DJ plays cranked-up hip hop. The green table is just one of many. Most of the vendors sell bags of weed. Some sell homemade small-batch edibles and THC drinks. A few sell homegrown psilocybin mushrooms. All of the vendors are smiling and calling out prices as visitors browse.

At one table, a kindly group sells wax hits off a rig for \$10 a rip. While one of the vendors heats up the rig's nail, he explains the proper temperature for vaping wax, noting that heating it up too much will burn the terpenes.

At another table, a man sells cookies, cakes and whoopie pies infused with cannabis.

"It's all made from scratch," he assures buyers.

He'll mention how effective they are at getting you high, but his real passion shines through when he describes the almond buttercream frosting.



A farmers market of cannabis and mushrooms draws crowds in Albuquerque. (Source: J Grisham)

At another table, a friendly young man displays different varieties of psilocybin mushrooms in glass jars. He's giving out free THC gummies to people passing by and showing off some comically oversized mushrooms in a bag.

"You have to respect the mushrooms," he tells one shopper. "These aren't for partying. They'll transform your life."

A bouncer waves to guests as they leave the building. "Stay safe," he says. "Take care."

There's an incongruous air of folksy wholesomeness that is impossible to deny about this place.

The term "open-air illicit drug market" stirs up images of dark alleys and sketchy dealers in overcoats selling fentanyl-laced heroin. But this place feels more like a farmers market or a swap meet. The people there are so friendly and sociable (some of them even make business cards for the event) that it's easy to forget that they're breaking the law.

Even though weed is legal in New Mexico, individuals can't sell it without a state-approved license. For vendors at the illicit drug market — who may be looking to sell only a few ounces here and there — the price of obtaining a microbusiness license and paying for product testing may be too high.

It begs the question why the state doesn't add a new type of license — something even

smaller than the microbusiness license — that would make it easier for small-time illicit dealers to go legit.

In Texas, small food vendors are allowed to sell homemade food at fairs and markets without meeting the same requirements as a restaurant or food truck thanks to the state's Cottage Food law.

Like cannabis, food is a highly regulated product that can cause serious health problems if mishandled. Under the Cottage Food law, Texans are allowed to sell certain homemade products and are only required to take a food handlers course and place state-issued labels on their wares.

New Mexico state Sen. Katy Duhigg (D-Albuquerque) tells *The Paper* that something like the Cottage Food law wouldn't work for marijuana.

"I don't think the Texas cottage approach is viable when it comes to cannabis," she says. "This is a psychoactive substance — and for many people a medication — that should have appropriate regulation to ensure consumer safety."

While home growers may have the best intentions, there's no way to tell if their products have been tainted by mold or pesticides if they aren't subjected to the same testing standards that licensed producers face.

"The benefit of the program, of course, is for consumers to be sure their product is up to state standards, is safe and properly packaged for safety," state Rep. Andrea Romero (D-Santa Fe)

says. "I would highly discourage any illicit activity and think it not only is something we cannot endorse, it undermines the many legitimate businesses who are doing the work to grow their businesses and ensure they are within the rule of law."

The state's Cannabis Control Division (CCD) sees it the same way. There's just no way to safely regulate weed under something like the Cottage Food law.

"While the CCD continuously looks for ways to support small businesses, those engaged in the commercial cannabis industry are held to a regulatory standard for many reasons — including to keep the public safe from potentially harmful, untested products and to keep cannabis away from minors," the CCD tells *The Paper* in a written statement. "The division's primary goal is to ensure that licensees are following the rules and regulations the state has set forth, and we will continue enforcing those laws so that all cannabis sold in New Mexico is safe for consumers."

When it comes to barriers to the industry that might keep out extra small operators, Duhigg says those barriers are fairly easy to overcome.

"The illicit market does not exist because folks are not able to afford a micro-license," she says. "We have the lowest barrier to entry in the country."

The microbusiness license that already exists comes with an annual license fee of \$500, not counting the cost of a space that meets state law.

Romero says small-timers are already welcome in the industry, and lawmakers are willing to hear any issues they face.

"I would encourage those who are interested in doing cottage businesses to get in touch with us about how we can improve the legal landscape prior to making decisions to sell their cannabis illegally," she says.

Duhigg says that while some of these illicit sellers may have made their products themselves, many are selling out-of-state products.

"The vast majority of the illicit market is out-of-state cannabis being sold here, which is de facto illegal," she says. "If anything, taking the Texas cottage approach is likely to increase the sale of illegal, out-of-state cannabis because under the cottage approach there would be essentially no regulation or oversight to catch that illegal behavior."



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!

States Sued Over Cannabis Equity

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

Rhode Island's Cannabis Control Commission is facing a lawsuit that claims its cannabis social equity laws are discriminatory and unconstitutional.

The suit, filed by California woman Justyna Jensen, claims the law favors one group of people. The law requires the majority business owner of a company to be a resident of Rhode Island who lives in an area "disproportionately impacted" by the War on Drugs in order to snag a license reserved for social-equity applicants. The law also requires that cannabis business owners seeking the special designation belong to a family in which a member has been charged with marijuana possession.

The suit claims that the law violates the "Dormant Commerce Clause" of the U.S. Constitution by depriving individuals of licenses based on where they live. Jensen is calling for a federal court to stop the commission from promulgating marijuana regulations.

According to *The Providence Journal*, Jensen has filed similar lawsuits in at least five states, including California and New York. She lost two similar cases in Washington and Maine after

judges ruled that the "Dormant Commerce Clause" doesn't apply to businesses that operate outside federal law.

NY Bills Would Allow People to Sue Unlicensed Operators

New York lawmakers have introduced two bills that would allow individuals to file civil lawsuits against unlicensed marijuana businesses.

The companion bills in the Senate and Assembly would allow private individuals to file suit against anyone who is violating the state's cannabis law by cultivating, processing, distributing or selling weed without a license. They would also be able to sue licensed businesses that are breaking any of the rules.

According to *The City*, the state of New York has fined unlicensed retailers more than \$25 million but has only collected about \$22,500.

New York's cannabis program has hit a number of hiccups in recent months, including lawsuits that are holding up the program's rollout and the recent firing of the state's top cannabis authority.

Delaware Looks to Dual Licensing

A newly introduced bill in Delaware would allow existing



(Source: Photo by StayRegular on Pixabay)

medical cannabis companies to apply for a dual license to sell both medical and recreational weed.

House Bill 408 would create a "conversion license" category that would give medical cannabis operators the option to sell recreational cannabis and would allow them to apply for general licenses at new locations if they are denied due to being located in a municipality that has opted out of recreational sales.

These applications would be automatically approved.

Businesses that are awarded conversion licenses would be able to start selling recreational marijuana immediately upon approval.

Delaware Rep. Ed Osienksi (D) and Sen. Trey Paradee (D), the sponsors of the bill, say that it would support the medical marijuana industry as the state moves into adult-use sales.

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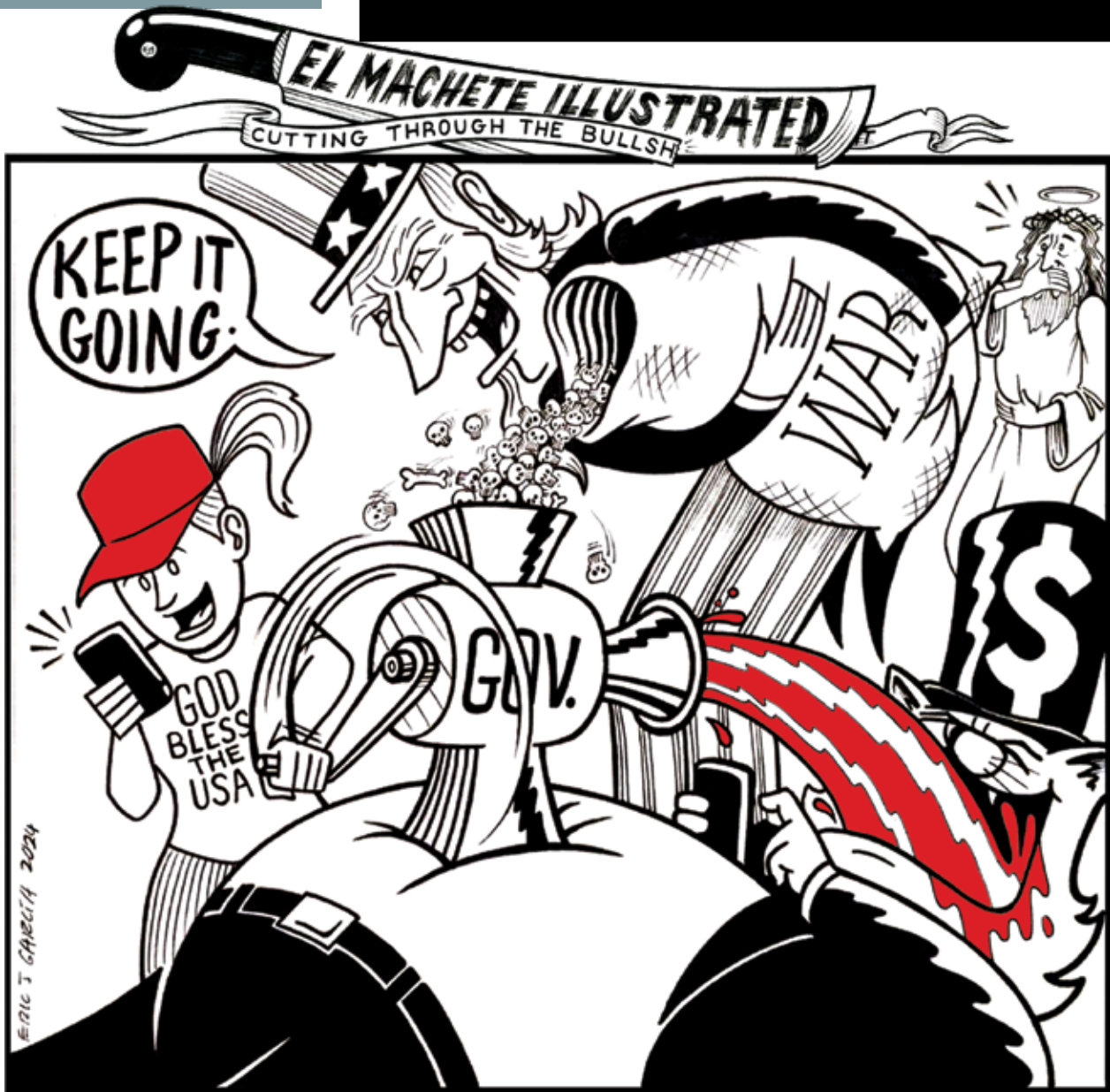
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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

Week of May 29

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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Welcome to the future of your education, Aries! Here are actions you can take to ensure you are exposed to all the lush lessons you need and deserve in the coming months. 1. Identify three subjects you would be excited to learn more about. 2. Shed dogmas and fixed theories that interfere with your receptivity to new information. 3. Vow to be alert for new guides or mentors. 4. Formulate a three-year plan to get the training and teachings you need most. 5. Be avidly curious.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Poet Emily Dickinson was skillful at invoking and managing deep feelings. One scholar described her emotions as being profoundly erotic, outlandish, sensuous, flagrant, and nuanced. Another scholar said she needed and sought regular doses of ecstasy. Yet even she, maestro of passions, got overwhelmed. In one poem, she wondered "Why Floods be served to us in Bowls?" I suspect you may be having a similar experience, Taurus. It's fun, though sometimes a bit too much. The good news is that metaphorically speaking, you will soon be in possession of a voluminous new bowl that can accommodate the floods.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): All of us periodically enjoy phases I call "Freedom from Cosmic Compulsion." During these times, the Fates have a reduced power to shape our destinies. Our willpower has more spaciousness to work with. Our intentions get less resistance from karmic pressures that at other times might narrow our options. As I meditated on you, dear Gemini, I realized you are now in a phase of Freedom from Cosmic Compulsion. I also saw that you will have more of these phases than anyone else during the next 11 months. It might be time for you to get a "LIBERATION" tattoo or an equivalent new accessory.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Bold predictions: 1. Whatever treasure you have lost or are losing will ultimately be reborn in a beautiful form. 2. Any purposeful surrender you make will hone your understanding of exactly what your soul needs next to thrive. 3. A helpful influence may fade away, but its disappearance will clear the path for new helpful influences that serve your future in ways you can't imagine yet. 4. Wandering around without a precise sense of where you're going will arouse a robust new understanding of what home means to you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Denmark's King Canute IV (1042–1086) wasn't bashful about asserting his power. He claimed ownership of all the land. He insisted on the right to inherit the possessions of all foreigners and people without families. Goods from shipwrecks were automatically his property. But once, his efforts to extend his authority failed. He had his servants move his throne to a beach as the tide came in. Seated and facing the North Sea, he commanded, "Halt your advance!" The surf did not obey. "You must surrender to my superior will!" he exclaimed, but the waters did not recede. Soon, his throne was engulfed by water. Humbled, Canute departed. I bring this up not to discourage you, Leo. I believe you can and should expand your influence and clout in the coming weeks. Just be sure you know when to stop.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Virgo-born Irène Joliot-Curie craved more attention than she got from her mother, Marie Curie. Mom was zealously devoted to her career as a chemist and physicist, which is one reason why she won Nobel Prizes in both fields. But she didn't spend sufficient time with her daughter. Fortunately, Irène's grandfather Eugène became his granddaughter's best friend and teacher. With his encouragement, she grew into a formidable scientist and eventually won a Nobel Prize in chemistry herself. Even if you're not a kid, Virgo, I suspect there may be a mentor and guide akin to Eugène in your future. Go looking! To expedite the process, define what activity or skill you want help in developing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I have a fantasy that sometime in the coming months, you will slip away to a sanctuary in a pastoral paradise. There you will enjoy long hikes and immerse yourself in healing music and savor books you've been wanting to read. Maybe you will write your memoirs or compose deep messages to dear old friends. Here's the title of what I hope will be a future chapter of your life story: "A Thrillingly Relaxing Getaway." Have you been envisioning an adventure like this, Libra? Or is your imagination more inclined to yearn for a trip to an exciting city where you will exult in high culture? I like that alternative, too. Maybe you will consider doing both.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): An Instagrammer named sketchesbyboze advises us, "Re-enchant your life by making the mundane exciting. You are not 'going to the drugstore.' You are visiting the apothecary to buy potions. You are not 'running an errand.' You are undertaking an unpredictable adventure. You are not 'feeding the birds.' You are making an alliance with the crow queen." I endorse this counsel for your use, Scorpio. You now have the right and duty to infuse your daily rhythm with magic and fantasy. To attract life's best blessings, you should be epic and majestic. Treat your life as a mythic quest.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I invite you to invite new muses into your life in the coming months. Give them auditions. Interview them. Figure out which are most likely to boost your creativity, stimulate your imagination, and rouse your inspiration in every area of your life, not just your art form. Tell them you're ready to deal with unpredictable departures from the routine as long as these alternate paths lead to rich teachings. And what form might these muses take? Could be actual humans. Could be animals or spirits. Might be ancestral voices, exciting teachings, or pilgrimages to sacred sanctuaries. Expand your concept of what a muse might be so you can get as much muse-like input as possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The Japanese have a word for a problem that plagues other countries as well as theirs: karoshi, or death from working too hard and too much. No matter how high-minded our motivations might be, no matter how interesting our jobs are, most of us cannot safely devote long hours to intense labor week after week, month after month. It's too stressful on the mind and body. I will ask you to monitor yourself for such proclivities in the coming months. You can accomplish wonders as long as you work diligently but don't overwork. (PS: You won't literally expire if you relentlessly push yourself with nonstop hard exertion, but you will risk compromising your mental health. So don't do it!)

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Typically, human fertility is strongest when the temperature is 64 degrees Fahrenheit. But I suspect you will be an exception to the rule in the coming months. Whether it's 10 below or 90 in the shade, your fertility will be extra robust—literally as well as psychologically and spiritually. If you are a heterosexual who would rather make great art or business than new babies, be very attentive to your birth control measures. No matter what your gender or sexual preference is, I advise you to formulate very clear intentions about how you want to direct all that lush fecundity. Identify which creative outlets are most likely to serve your long-term health and happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Here's a key assignment in the coming months: Enjoy fantasizing about your dream home. Imagine the comfortable sanctuary that would inspire you to feel utterly at home in your body, your life, and the world. Even if you can't afford to buy this ultimate haven, you will benefit from visualizing it. As you do, your subconscious mind will suggest ways you can enhance your security and stability. You may also attract influences and resources that will eventually help you live in your dream home.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Contrail's makeup

6 Radar screen image

10 "Father Knows ____"

14 Treasure

15 Streaming device

16 Chorus voice

17 Birth-related

18 Game with Cavity Sam

20 Waste away

22 Galaxy rival

23 Part of a URL

24 Turned a key, perhaps

25 Heart of the matter

27 Novice

28 Sundial's seven

29 Sculpted work

31 Big fusses

35 Reunion goer

37 Heartbeat sound

39 Street performer

40 Wanderer

42 Walking ____ (elated)

44 Cheese partner, briefly

45 Copter's fore-runner (var.)

47 Lenient

49 Got in shape

52 Tough guy

53 Wheel's cover

54 Ladies' man

57 Without oxygen

59 Baltimore player

60 Apt to snoop

61 "Loving" actress Negga

62 Work on dough

63 "Trick" joint

64 Peach or beech

65 Charlie Brown's sister

11 "Silas Marner" novelist

12 Oscar-winning Emma

13 Sculpted, as muscles

19 One way to fall

21 Fancy necktie

24 Overeater's woe

25 2007 Steve Carell film, "____ Almighty"

26 Storage cylinder

30 Phoenix NBAer

32 Piece of pulp fiction

33 Neighbor of Yemen

34 Religious offshoot

36 90s optical illusion fad

38 A whole bunch

41 Mideast money

43 Notes

46 School paper

48 Tomorrow, in Tulum

49 Word in an Oscar speech

50 Talk a blue streak

51 Demean

54 Give a ticket to

55 Butcher's offering

56 Taylor of Mayberry

58 Prickly seed case

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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."

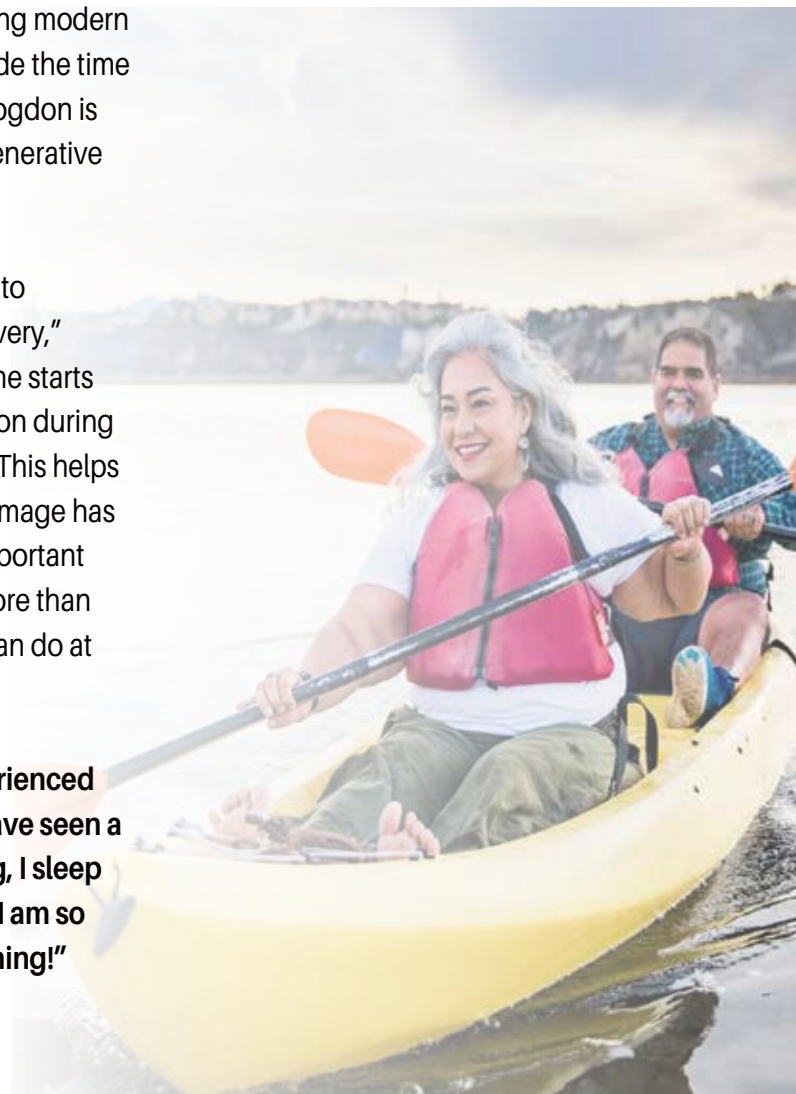
Dr. Andrea Brogdon has helped thousands of patients get their life back after being diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy and living with the debilitating effects of the disease. How does she get such amazing results? "Acupuncture has been used for centuries to improve circulation but the real magic happens 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.



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