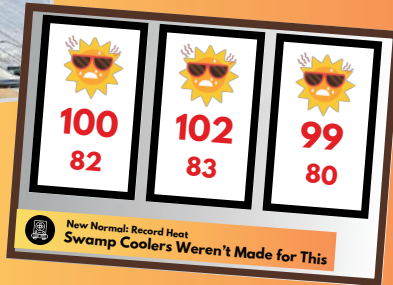




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JULY 17, 2024  
VOLUME 05 | ISSUE 29

# Paper.

**INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS**



*Albuquerque  
Little Theatre looks to  
the future with a new boss  
and diverse programming*

By Michael Hodock P.11



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The Paper.

ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

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STAFF & CONTRIBUTORS:

Editorial:

Andy Lyman  
Editor  
[andy@abq.news](mailto:andy@abq.news)

Devin D. O'Leary  
Calendar Editor, Reporter  
[devin@abq.news](mailto:devin@abq.news)

Michael Hodock  
Reporter  
[michael@abq.news](mailto:michael@abq.news)

Contributors:

Joshua Lee  
Cannabis Reporter, Columnist

Jonathan Sims  
Indigeneity Columnist, Reporter

Gwynne Ann Unruh  
Reporter

Roberto Rosales  
Photographer

Sales:

Chiara Sullivan  
Account Executive  
[chiara@abq.news](mailto:chiara@abq.news)

Production:

Rachel Mills  
Art Director

Pat Davis  
Owner & Publisher  
[pat@abq.news](mailto:pat@abq.news)

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ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS



# The Paper.

FREE  
JULY 17, 2024  
VOLUME 05 | ISSUE 29

ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

## NEW DIRECTIONS

*Albuquerque  
Little Theatre looks to  
the future with a new boss  
and diverse programming*

By Michael Hodock P.11



## Weak in Review: July 17

### Quick hits on this week's news bits

The legislative special session, called by Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham, starts this week.

Cue the calliope circus music.



One of the governor's proposals is mandatory behavioral health for those claiming to be incompetent to stand trial.

We all remember trying to get people vaccinated, right?

In a matter of days, Donald Trump literally dodged a bullet and saw his classified documents case dismissed.

Proving the left is just as good at conspiracy theories as the right.

Donald Trump announced U.S. Sen. J.D. Vance as his running mate.

Looks like he found his guy to overturn election results.

A Santa Fe judge dismissed Alec Baldwin's involuntary manslaughter case.

It happened just in time too. There's no way we can focus our attention on two circuses in Santa Fe.



Organizers of the Zero Proof Fest in Albuquerque say it was the first nonalcoholic beverage festival in the state.

Hats off to anyone brave enough to stay sober these days.

The city is closing off alleyways in an attempt to curb drug use.

Wait, is that not what alleys are for?

Scientists say they found a cave on the moon that could serve as shelter for future astronauts.

Asking for a friend: Is it big enough for, ya know, all of us?

City Councilor Joaquín Baca says he wants to install noise cameras downtown to curb loud disturbances.

We're not going to lie, a little peace and quiet sounds really nice right now.



## Detained Immigrants Lose a Lifeline as ICE Ends Free Phone Time Program

By Kate Morrissey, Capital & Main

After a man from Pakistan crossed the U.S.-Mexico border to request asylum in February, immigration officials sent him to a detention center in New Mexico where he was the only Urdu speaker.

He found solace in a program created during the pandemic that allowed people in immigration custody to make a small number of free phone calls each month. The program allowed them to avoid the expensive per-minute charges that detainees typically must pay. He spoke with his family, particularly his mother, for a few minutes every day, he said.

But Immigration and Customs Enforcement abruptly ended the free phone call program in early June, and the man said he hadn't spoken to his mother in weeks.

"Mostly, I've been silent and lonely," he said through an Urdu interpreter.

The man asked not to be identified out of concern for the well-being of family members, who no longer live in Pakistan.

He and many other detainees are facing increased mental health struggles now that they're unable to call loved ones on a regular basis, according to attorneys and other advocates. The loss of the program has also hindered many detainees' ability to communicate with their attorneys or get help from advocates.

Though each facility has a process for attorneys to request phone time with their clients, it can be slow and difficult to get scheduled. Sophia Genovese, who represents the man from Pakistan, said the facility where he is now being held requires at least 24 hours' notice. And while the hotline for the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center, the nonprofit where she works, is supposed to be free for people in local ICE custody to call, her own cellphone is not. If her client needs to reach her urgently, he can't do that without paying for a call.

The lack of free phone calls also makes it more difficult for her clients to reach family members to gather evidence they

may need for their immigration cases, she said.

ICE did not respond to Capital & Main's requests for comment about the program's end.

ICE began the free calls program in 2020 as facilities shut down in-person visitation due to the spread of COVID-19. The implementation of the program appears to have varied from facility to facility. But across the country, detainees have used the program to communicate with family members and attorneys. They've even used the program to reach journalists to call attention to conditions inside the facilities.

Jennifer Ibañez Whitlock, supervisory policy and practice counsel at the American Immigration Lawyers Association, said the choice to end the program appears to be part of a broader move by ICE to cut costs.

"This is an agency that frequently relies on asking for additional funding beyond what it's given in appropriations," Whitlock said. "It uses budget models but doesn't review them."

She pointed to a government oversight report that strongly criticized ICE's budgeting practices.

People held in ICE facilities are in civil rather than criminal custody, meaning there are differences in treatment standards. Among them, people in immigration custody are not supposed to be forced to work. However, advocates argue that the high prices charged by phone contractors used by the facilities obligate detainees to work in the facilities, which often pay as little as \$1 per day.

"It takes you a lot of time to save up money for a call," Whitlock said.

More than two-thirds of the people in ICE custody so far in fiscal 2024 were apprehended by Customs and Border Protection rather than ICE, according to ICE data. That means that they were likely taken into custody after crossing the border to request asylum. Many have little financial support or access to funds while in custody.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



Many attorneys and advocates who support detainees through letter-writing and hotlines have spoken out against the decision to take away their free phone access.

On Thursday, Detention Watch Network sent a letter signed by 221 organizations to Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas urging him to reinstate the program.

“Depriving detained people of this service with little advance notice and without meaningful engagement with organizations directly representing those in detention underscores a disregard for the basic humanity of those navigating their immigration cases while held in detention and further isolates and punishes them,” the document states.

The letter asserts that ICE has, in the past, cited the free calls program in court to justify its detention practices. In response to a court case filed in 2022 in Washington, D.C., that alleges ICE interfered with attorneys’ ability to communicate with detained clients, the agency argued that the free phone calls program is one of the ways that detainees have access to their lawyers.

The letter also condemns the increased use of immigration detention by the Biden administration — including requests for more detention space around the country — amid what it calls “deteriorating conditions” at the facilities as the number of people being held goes up. It points out that 11 people have died in ICE custody so far this fiscal year. The prior year, four people died in custody, according to ICE records.

Amilcar Valencia, executive director of El Refugio, a nonprofit that supports people held in custody at the Stewart Detention Center in rural Lumpkin, Georgia, said that he noticed a large dropoff in calls to his organization’s hotline after the free phone calls program ended.

Then he heard from a concerned mother in Colombia whose son had suddenly stopped calling from the detention center, and Valencia had to explain to her that the free calls had been eliminated. It’s difficult for families like hers to scrape together money to deposit in their loved ones’ commissary



(Source: miss\_millions is licensed under CC BY 2.0)

accounts, let alone figure out how to do that from abroad, Valencia said.

“The phone calls are the only way that they keep in touch,” he said. “You are a parent or a husband or a son, and you continue to be that in detention. This is the only way you have, and it’s taken away. It basically turns everything upside down.”

His organization is raising money to add funds to detainees’ commissary accounts so that they can continue to make periodic calls.

The end of the free phone calls program has also intensified the legal fight over whether people in ICE custody can be paid as little as \$1 per day for working inside the facilities, less than what prison inmates in California make. Attorneys have filed lawsuits across the country over the past decade claiming that the pay practices violate minimum wage and forced labor laws. If detainees are deprived of basic needs, such as the ability to communicate with attorneys or loved ones, unless they join the work programs, many of the lawsuits argue, then the work

programs should no longer be considered voluntary.

Meanwhile, some detainees are staging protests over the end of the free phone calls program.

In Batavia, New York, about 40 people in ICE custody at the Buffalo Federal Detention Facility went on a hunger strike to protest the change, according to Justice for Migrant Families, an organization that offers support to immigrants in custody in the region.

Officials threatened the strikers with being locked in their cells 24 hours a day or with solitary confinement, according to Justice for Migrant Families, which said it received sworn statements from several strikers. Some detainees were strapped down and taken to solitary, the organization said in a press release. One detainee told Justice for Migrant Families that, in the process of taking him to solitary confinement, the guards became violent, beat him and wrapped him tightly in a sheet, even as he shouted that he could not breathe.

In California, people held in ICE custody in Bakersfield

and nearby McFarland began a labor strike inside the detention centers at the beginning of July to push ICE to make several changes, including restoring the program. Strikers are also calling for an end to solitary confinement, adequate food and medical care, fair review of their immigration cases and an end to the contracts for the two facilities where they are held.

For the man from Pakistan, the sudden loss of his mother’s voice has pushed him further into depression. His hair is starting to turn white, he said, though he’s only 28. He said his short-term memory fails him frequently, and that scares him, too.

He worries about what will happen if and when he is deported to Pakistan, where he fears for his life. But he can’t stop thinking about it because he has no one to talk with to at least distract him from such thoughts. There are no books in Urdu for him to read, nothing to take his mind off the situation.

“I am going through mental torture here,” he said. “I want to get free. I want justice.”



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[www.guildcinema.com](http://www.guildcinema.com)



## 20th Annual Summer Festival of Film Noir

Once again Nob Hill's Guild Cinema (3405 Central Ave. NE) is offering audiences the opportunity to spend a summer in the dark. For the past two decades, the venerable art house theater has hosted the Summer Festival of Film Noir, a 10-day sampler of "classic and modern noir" celebrating the shadow-filled genre of guns, gangsters, detectives and dames. Each day, from **July 19 to July 28**, offers a double-feature of moody crime drama. It all starts unspooling on **Friday, July 19**, with **Mexico's Wildest Noir Musicals** featuring new restorations of 1951's *Aventurera* (4 and 8:15 p.m.) and 1951's *Victims of Sin* (6:15 p.m.). That's followed by even more two-for-one cinematic treasures, running the gamut from Golden Age Hollywood pulp (1964's *The Naked Kiss* by Sam Fuller) to modern noir (1983's remake of *Breathless* starring Richard Gere) to foreign obscurities (1953's *El Vampiro Negro*, an Argentine remake of Fritz Lang's *M*). Tickets (two films for the price of one) are **\$10** general admission or **\$7** students/seniors. For a complete schedule, go to [guildcinema.com](http://guildcinema.com).

### THURSDAY, JULY 18

#### Drink

July Wine Club Social 6-8 pm  
D.H. Lescombes Winery & Bistro  
901 Rio Grande Blvd NW #B-100

#### Exhibit

Poeh Ah Ka Wohatsey: The  
Emergence Teachings of  
Resilience 9 am-5 pm Indian  
Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th  
Street NW

Pueblo Baseball: Stitching Our  
Community Together 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

28th Annual Summer Thursday  
Jazz Nights - Chris Jonas Quartet:  
Music from the Deserts \$15-  
\$30 7:30-9:30 pm Outpost  
Performance Space 210 Yale Blvd.  
SE

Brightsmith 6-9 pm Rio Bravo  
Brewing Company 1912 Second  
St NW

Chessa Peak 6:30-8:30 pm  
M'tucci's Bar Roma Restaurant  
3222 Central Ave. SE

Duke City Riots Album Release  
\$10 8-11 pm Launchpad 618  
Central Ave SW

Duke City Swampcoolers 6-9 pm  
Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec  
Road Northeast

Garden Music - Calle 66 \$3-\$15  
7-8:30 pm ABQ BioPark Botanic  
Garden 2601 Central Ave NW

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

Karaoke with DJ Q 8-10 pm Luxe  
Lounge 303 Romero St NW N-117

The Glass Hours \$20-\$25 7:30-9  
pm FUSION 700-708 First St. NW

Thursday Night Rinse: A Night of  
UK Bass, Garage, Drum N Bass &  
Breaks \$5 9 pm-2 am Insideout  
622 Central Ave SW

#### Performance

FUSION Theatre Company  
Presents To Rosa, Love Anna 7  
pm Albuquerque Museum 2000  
Mountain Road NW

### FRIDAY, JULY 19

#### Art Openings

Opening Reception for Desert  
Stories: The Art of Kelly Frye  
& Jazmin Novak 5-7 pm Indian  
Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th  
Street NW

#### Class / Workshop

Amma in New Mexico 2024 All  
Day Hotel Albuquerque at Old  
Town 800 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

#### Comedy

ANATOMICA: A Comedy About  
Meat, Bones, & The Skin You're  
In \$15-\$25 8-9:15 pm q-Staff  
Theatre 400 Broadway Blvd SE

Dry Heat Presents \$15 9:30-11 pm  
Dry Heat Comedy Club 100 Gold  
Ave SW Suite 112

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

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

#### Dance

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

Summer Lu'au \$50-\$60 6-8 pm  
Ka La Kapu Polynesian Dance  
School 6001 San Mateo Blvd. NE  
Suite D-1

The Pueblo Dance Group  
(Laguna, Acoma, Zuni, Hopi)  
2-3pm Museum of Indian Arts &  
Culture 710 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe

#### Festival

The 4th Annual Hero in All Of  
Us Event 12-6 pm Ballut Abyad  
Shriners 6600 Zuni Rd SE



<b>Film</b> 20th Annual Summer Festival of Film Noir \$7-\$10 4-10 pm Guild Cinema 3405 Central Ave NE	Donnie and Friends - A night of trance music \$10 9:30 pm-12:30 am JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest	Morris Day & The Time \$45-\$65 8-9:30 pm Isleta Resort & Casino 11000 Broadway Blvd SE	<b>Performance</b> FUSION Theatre Company Presents To Rosa, Love Anna 7 pm FUSION 700-708 First St. NW
Movies in the Park: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles - Mutant Mayhem 7-10 pm Paradise Hills Community Center 5901 Paradise Blvd NW	EDM Night w/ Kaleido 8-11 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW	Music at the Winery - Hilary Smith 6:30-9 pm Pasando Tiempo Winery and Vineyards 277 Dandelion Rd., Corrales	Landmark Musicals Presents: You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown \$12-\$24 7-9 pm Sandia Prep 532 Osuna Rd. NE
<b>Markets</b> La Familia Farmer's Market 5-8 pm Westside Community Center 1250 Isleta Blvd SW	Experience the Raw Power of Flamenco \$40 8-9:30 pm Casa Flamenca 401 Rio Grande Blvd. NW	Operation Rewind 7-9 pm Urban 360 Pizza 2119 Menaul Blvd NE.	The Bridges of Madison County \$20-\$26 7:30-10 pm Adobe Theater 9813 4th St NW
<b>Miscellaneous</b> AMMA TOUR 2024 All Day Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town 800 Rio Grande Blvd. NW	Happy Hour with Anything That Moves! 6 pm The Historic Lobo Theater - Lounge & Event Venue 3013 Central Ave NE	Salsa Under the Stars ft. Ivon Ulibarri and Cafe Mocha \$17-\$20 7-9 pm Albuquerque Museum 2000 Mountain Road NW	<b>Sports</b> Duke City Championship Wrestling: Final Journey \$20-\$130 7-9 pm Historic El Rey Theatre 622 Central Ave SW
<b>Music</b> Anything For Selena Night 8 pm-2 am Insideout 622 Central Ave SW	Hello Darlin' 6-9 pm Boxing Bear Brewing Co. (Firestone Taproom and Brewery) 8420 Firestone Lane NE	Summertime in Old Town: Severo Y Grupo Fuego 7-9 pm Old Town Albuquerque 2005 N. Plaza St. NW Albuquerque	
Beeper & Trapper Keepers \$5 8:30 pm-12:30 am Sister 407 Central Ave. NW	Jon Wolfe \$12-\$159 7-10 pm The Dirty Bourbon Dance Hall & Saloon 9800 Montgomery Blvd NE	Three Bad Jacks \$8 8-11 pm Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW	<b>SATURDAY, JULY 20</b>
Coffin Club w/ DJ Batboy 8-11 pm Tractor Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE	Karaoke at the Motor Co. 8-10 pm Tractor Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE	Turner & Grimes Trio w/ Kat Fucile 7-10 pm Lizard Tail Brewing 9800 Montgomery Blvd NE STE 7	<b>Comedy</b> Comedy Night! 7:30-9:30 pm Brew Lab 101 - NE Heights 3107 Eubank Blvd., Suite 12
	Lani Nash 7-9 pm Albuquerque Distilling 5001 Central Ave NE Suite A5	Vakenn 6-8:30 pm El Vado 2500 Central Ave SW	Dry Heat Presents \$15 9:30-11 pm Dry Heat Comedy Club 100 Gold Ave SW Suite 112



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

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

Stand-up Comedy with Alex Benton \$15 8-10 pm Orpheum Community Hub 500 2nd Street Southwest

seaMAN: A Queer Nautical Comedy! \$15-\$25 8-9 pm q-Staff Theatre 400 Broadway Blvd SE

#### Community

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

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

#### Dance

The Pueblo Dance Group (Laguna, Acoma, Zuni, Hopi) 2-3pm Museum of Indian Arts & Culture 710 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe

#### Drink

Homebrewer's Happy Hour 10 am-3 pm Southwest Grape & Grain 3401 Candelaria Rd, NE suite e/g

#### Exhibit

Desert Stories: The Art of Kelly Frye & Jazmin Novak 9 am-5 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW

#### Festival

Route 66 Summerfest 5-10 pm Nob Hill From Girard to Carlisle on Central Avenue

#### Film

20th Annual Summer Festival of Film Noir \$7-\$10 4-10 pm Guild Cinema 3405 Central Ave NE

#### Food

M'Tucci's 11 Year Anniversary Dinner \$169 6-8 pm Old Town Farm 949 Montoya St NW

#### Health & Wellness

Mindful Movement - Power Yoga in the Park 9-10 am Academy Hills Park 9709 Layton Ave. NE

#### Markets

Homegirls Mercado Opening Day 9 am-12:30 pm El Chante: Casa De Cultura 804 Park Ave SW

#### Miscellaneous

2nd Southwest Comic Book & Creator Showcase \$1 10 am-5 pm Ballut Abyad Shriners 6600 Zuni Rd SE

One Year Anniversary Party 6-11:30 pm Flock of Moons Brewing Company 111 Harvard Dr. SE

#### Music

'70s Soul Train Party \$15-\$140 8 pm-12 am Revel Entertainment Center 4720 Alexander Blvd NE

90s Country Covers Night w/ Back in the Saddle Band 7:30-9:30 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

Beer & Jazz on the Hill 5-11 pm Tractor Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE

Candlelight: Ed Sheeran Meets Coldplay \$33 9-10:15 pm The Clyde Hotel 330 Tijeras Avenue Northwest

Cumbia Party with Super Verza Special Guests \$15-\$40 8 pm-12:30 am JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street Northwest

Experience the Raw Power of Flamenco \$40 8-9:30 pm Casa Flamenca 401 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

Flashback 80s Video Music Dance Party \$10-\$15 8 pm-1:30 am Sister 407 Central Ave. NW

Sabor Latin Night \$5-\$10 9 pm-1 am Hotel Andaluz 125 Second St. NW

Summer Music Saturdays: Billy & Bela 1-4 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Summer Sound Bath Experience with Douglas Cardwell \$40 6:30-7:30 pm FUSION 700-708 First St. NW

Summertime in Old Town: Kyle Martin 7-9 pm Old Town Albuquerque 2005 N. Plaza St. NW

Time Travelors 7:30-9:30 pm Casa Vieja Brewery 4541 Corrales Rd, Corrales



Performance

Landmark Musicals Presents:  
You're a Good Man, Charlie  
Brown \$12-\$24 7-9 pm Sandia  
Prep 532 Osuna Rd. NE

The Bridges of Madison County  
\$20-\$26 7:30-10 pm Adobe  
Theater 9813 4th St NW

Sports

Albuquerque Roller Derby - Bosque  
Bruisers vs Sandia Slammers  
\$10-\$13 6-8 pm EXPO New  
Mexico, Manuel Lujan Jr. Exhibit  
Complex 300 San Pedro Dr NE

SUNDAY, JULY 21

Class / Workshop

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

Yoga for Addiction Recovery  
6:30-7:45 pm Yogasaar Studio  
2205 Silver Ave. SE

Comedy

seaMAN: A Queer Nautical  
Comedy! \$15-\$25 8-9 pm q-Staff  
Theatre 400 Broadway Blvd SE

Dance

On Point Dance Studio: Dancing  
Through the Decades \$25-\$35 6-8  
pm National Hispanic Cultural  
Center 1701 4th Street Southwest

Summer Lu'au \$50-\$60 4-6 pm  
Ka La Kapu Polynesian Dance  
School 6001 San Mateo Blvd. NE  
Suite D-1

Discussion / Lecture

Arches and Artistry: A Chronicle  
of Albuquerque's Alvarado Hotel  
2-3 pm Albuquerque Museum  
2000 Mountain Road NW

Family/Kids

Free Family Sundays at Casa  
Flamenca 11 am-12 pm Casa  
Flamenca 401 Rio Grande  
Boulevard NW

Film

20th Annual Summer Festival of  
Film Noir \$7-\$10 4-10 pm Guild  
Cinema 3405 Central Ave NE

The Historic Lobo Theater  
Presents: The WaterBoy \$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

Literature/Poetry

Janet Brennan Book Signing 1:30-  
3:30 pm Treasure House Books &  
Gifts 2012 S Plaza St NW A

Markets

Rail Yard Market: Beverage Brawl  
Day 10 am-2 pm Albuquerque  
Rail Yards 722 3rd St SW

Miscellaneous

2nd Southwest Comic Book &  
Creator Showcase \$1 11 am-4 pm  
Ballut Abyad Shriners 6600 Zuni  
Rd SE

Music

Experience the Raw Power of  
Flamenco \$40 7-8:30 pm Casa  
Flamenca 401 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

Lenin & McCarthy 4-7 pm Rio  
Bravo Brewing Company 1912  
Second St NW

Lonn Calanca Band 6-9 pm The  
Hall ABQ 107 Jefferson St. NE

Mele Luna Sound Immersion  
with Marie Swan Black 7-8:30 pm  
FUSION 700-708 First St. NW

Odd Dog 4-7 pm Rio Bravo  
Brewing Company 1912 Second  
St NW

Summertime in Old Town:  
Mustang Sally & The Corvettes  
1-3 pm Old Town Albuquerque  
2005 N. Plaza St. NW

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

The Rising Stars of Rock 'n'  
Roll w/ the McCharmlys & The  
Charities \$20 8-11 pm Launchpad  
618 Central Ave SW

Performance

FUSION Theatre Company  
Presents To Rosa, Love Anna 2  
pm Albuquerque Museum 2000  
Mountain Road NW

Landmark Musicals Presents:  
You're a Good Man, Charlie  
Brown \$12-\$24 2-4 pm Sandia  
Prep 532 Osuna Rd. NE

The Bridges of Madison County  
\$20-\$26 2-4:30 pm Adobe  
Theater 9813 4th St NW

Sports

Duke City Gladiators vs. Northern  
Arizona Wranglers \$18-\$53 3-5:30  
pm Rio Rancho Events Center  
3001 Civic Center Cir NE, Rio  
Rancho

July Full Moon Run 7:30-8:30 pm  
Rio Grande Park 1744 Kit Carson  
Ave. SW

MONDAY, JULY 22

Class / Workshop

Sabor Cubano - Casino Salsa  
\$20-\$60 5:30-7:30 pm National  
Hispanic Cultural Center 1701 4th  
Street Southwest

Film

20th Annual Summer Festival of  
Film Noir \$7-\$10 4-10 pm Guild  
Cinema 3405 Central Ave NE

Games

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

Family Trivia Night: The Sandlot  
6-8 pm Restoration Pizza 5161  
Lang Ave. NE Ste. A

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

Miscellaneous

AMMA TOUR 2024 All Day Hotel  
Albuquerque at Old Town 800  
Rio Grande Blvd. NW

[EVENTS.]



Music

Exciter & Midnight \$25 7:30-11 pm  
Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW

Lie For Fun \$10 8-11 pm  
Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW

TUESDAY, JULY 23

Film

20th Annual Summer Festival of  
Film Noir \$7-\$10 4-10 pm Guild  
Cinema 3405 Central Ave NE

Games

Music Bingo 7-9 pm Flatiron  
Bites & Brews 6001 San Mateo  
Blvd NE

Trivia For a Cause: The Bear \$25  
6-9 pm Bosque Brewing Co. Nob  
Hill Public House 106 Girard  
Blvd. SE B

Health & Wellness

Yoga in the Barrel Room \$10 6-7  
pm Rio Bravo Brewing Company  
1912 Second St NW

Music

AMP Concerts Presents Carolyn  
Wonderland \$25-\$30 7:30-11 pm  
FUSION 700-708 First St. NW

Beer Choir 6:30-8 pm Canteen  
Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road  
Northeast

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

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

Turner & Grimes Trio w/ Kat  
Fucile 6-8 pm Steel Bender  
Brewyard 8305 Second St. NW,  
Los Ranchos de



View the full  
list of events at  
[calendar.abq.news](https://calendar.abq.news)

The Paper.



By Thomas Crone, Last Word Features

In many respects, Postmodern Jukebox could only exist today with a perfectly matched blend of elements coming into harmony over the past decade. The performers are at the heart of that, though quite a number of them can claim at least adjunct membership in the project these days. The sounds those players make isn't limited to one style; PMJ's set lists vary wildly across genres, from western swing to traditional jazz to big band and '60s soul.

Video, though! That's the way in which the group has truly grown, with a consistent output to YouTube capturing millions of views. As of press time, the project (via Wikipedia: "a rotating musical collective founded by New York based pianist Scott Bradlee in 2011") had released over 400 videos on YouTube alone, with over 6 million subscribers on that service. The Thursday video release on YouTube routinely scores PMJ hundreds of thousands of hits, with songs that routinely top the million mark.

At the heart of the PMJ project is musician and arranger Bradlee, who is frequently featured in the group's videos, which highlight hits from across the decades, almost always done in a retro style that both defies and complements the original song. With guest vocalists the rule, Postmodern Jukebox is able to update tracks from the past handful of decades, across a wide variety of styles. Over recent months, the band covered The Cure, Miley Cyrus, Morgan Wallen, Billy Joel, The Weeknd and The Bee Gees. In each case, the original version of the song was matched with an approach that would surprise fans of the original; a great example of that is KISS' "I Was Made for Loving You," played by PMJ in a spaghetti western soundtrack style, with Effie Passero on lead vocals.

During a stretch of autumn 2023 video releases, Chloe Feoranzo returned to the PMJ fold. She's been featured in the band as both a live, touring player and as a guest vocalist on videos. And it was in October that she covered the Depeche Mode classic "Enjoy the Silence," giving the song a 1920s jazz age sheen. It racked up about a half-million views within the first two weeks.

Feoranzo has performed with the group on an irregular basis for the past few years, and though she's not taking a heavy role in this summer's touring, she's well-versed in what the group does



(Source: Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox)

and guests with the group from time-to-time.

For the session that birthed "Enjoy the Silence," she said Bradlee offered up a handful of tracks she might wish to sing on (with her clarinet playing also featured on the track). Once she decided on "Enjoy the Silence," she was flown from her home in Los Angeles to Nashville. There, about 20 minutes outside of town, she joined the ensemble that would be featured on the track, working with them to whip it into shape at Bradlee's state-of-the-art home audio and video studio.

A traditional player at heart, Feoranzo said "I have rarely brought a song to the table, but for the 'Dancing With Myself' video, I did suggest it. I love Billy Idol and thought it was a fun one to try. Scott usually gives you a list to choose from and with Depeche Mode, I thought 'Enjoy the Silence' would be one that'd work best for my style."

She added that everything about the experience has become finely honed, the production studio moving around the country until Bradlee's property was turned into the PMJ headquarters.

"They have a studio on the property that's always set up," she said. "There're instruments and background curtains, an entire studio dedicated to doing videos. When I did 'Enjoy,' Scott sent me a scratch recording of him playing it on the piano. I memorized the song – the lyrics and chords – and got a feel of it and we went through it a few

times. Then it was time to try on a costume. We took about seven or eight takes. The interesting thing about being a part of Scott's videos is that nothing's ever overdubbed. If the take is messed up, we start over again. What you see is what you get. I know that there's some audio tweaking, but that's just adjusting levels and such; the core take is live."

In running through dozens of songs a year, the band has a massive catalog of material from which to choose, and players are brought in who can master it. Just as the sounds are generally plucked from the 1980s through today, the styles they play are from 1920s into the 1960s, a challenging thing for even the keenest players. Feoranzo has been in that number.

"I have been taking a step back from the longer touring. I did release that video with them and have been doing smaller tours," she said. "Like, I got a sub call earlier this year to go out for a few days."

Not unlike some of the barnstorming troupes of the mid-20th century, she said that the Postmodern Jukebox machinery is so well-honed that "they have one, or even two tours happening at once here in the U.S. and overseas. Each of these tours can involve a cast and crew of about 15 members, or about as many people as you can fit on a bus."

Though musicians are obviously booked for that role, she suggested that the nature of the beast is such that musicians wind up behind the merch table. The band's emcee – who helps

keep the show moving on-stage while engaging the audience by highlighting the best-dressed members – might be one of the tour managers. It's an all-hands-on-deck experience, played to an audience that Feoranzo said really crosses a lot of demographics.

Or as she said, "it's a wide range of ages for sure and people who're happy to go out for an evening."

Feoranzo said she's open to guesting on upcoming videos and would consider further touring, though she's busy with a pair of groups in Los Angeles: the Pinot Noir Quartet and the Jessica Fichot Quartet. She also plays dates on the road with the Shake 'Em Up Jazz Band, a group she joined during her pre-COVID era living in New Orleans.

She said, though, that even when she's not an active, touring participant of PMJ, she knows the group has put up a video featuring her on some platform, or another.

"They've been able to master the video portion of the business," she said. "They have that part of the equation down pat. They share videos all of the time. Every few hours, they're posting and reposting videos."

Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox

7:30 p.m. Aug. 7

Lensic Performing Arts Center

211 W San Francisco St, Santa Fe

Tickets: \$54 to \$119

All ages



By Michael Hodock, The Paper.

Henry Avery, 84, executive director of the Albuquerque Little Theatre retired July 1 and former managing director Rob Armstrong Martin has been hired as Avery's replacement. As executive director, Martin plans to diversify what the theater has to offer, showcasing smaller acts, bands and even stand up comics. Martin, who saw his first play at Albuquerque Little Theatre when he was 4, believes that doubling down on education is the only way to keep live theater alive, and that the earlier young people are introduced to live theater, the better. He plans to accomplish that goal by offering classes and hosting events targeted toward a younger audience.

"Every kid deserves theater," Martin says. "But not every kid gets theater and we wanna change that."

*This interview has been edited for length and clarity.*

#### Could you describe the try out process for an executive position like this?

A lot of it is understanding the theater's long history. It's been in existence 95 years — 90 in the current building. It's the only theater company in town that produces a season of theater and owns its own building. We're in different businesses: Producing, rental, presenting, education, you name it. We have a big education program for kids theater classes as well as some adult things like dance.

One of our challenges is to make the case to ticket buyers that life is better live. I can tell you there is medical evidence that live social interaction is much better for people's brain health — especially as they get older — than digital consumption is.

#### Could you say a little bit more about the medical evidence?

The blue light that comes from watching devices for your entertainment does have an effect on the brain which is overly exciting or excitable, so maybe it's not optimal learning — long-term retention — because you're not in a relaxed state of flow when you're watching digital entertainment.

Also when we're watching theater or any live entertainment in a room full of people, we respond to the cues of other people's enjoyment. When somebody laughs at a joke, we're



## New Directions

*Albuquerque Little Theatre looks to the future with a new boss and diverse programming*

Rob Armstrong Martin (Source: Albuquerque Little Theatre)

more likely to find permission to laugh. This further strengthens synaptic activity because we're actively participating in our own entertainment, not just sort of letting it wash over us.

#### Have you seen evidence of a resurgence of interest in live performance?

The smaller theaters are getting more full, but it takes a lot more marketing effort on behalf of those theaters, many of which are entirely volunteer-run. We are also finding that marketing challenge.

Broadway is back, better than ever and commanding very large box offices.... People are treating things like Broadway to be destination events or destination experiences. Getting a selfie in front of the theater poster, going out to dinner, all of those things that make it an extended experience have gone up and have reinforced that.

When you look at Popejoy — which is mostly big glitzy touring versions of Broadway — those almost always sell out.

#### Gosh, it's exciting, isn't it? I see it with live music as well.

One of the things I'm excited about is [diversifying] what we offer because we have such a great location off Central and free parking. I've told the staff we need to be finding ways to showcase local entertainers that are not necessarily theater because we have this beautiful 90-year-old building that was a gift to us from a past generation. Smaller acts, bands, stand up comics even. Anybody is welcome.

#### Are there other kinds of entertainment that you might showcase?

We pitched an Indigenous storytellers festival to a recent grant competition and that's exciting because that brings us intersectionality with Native American audiences who aren't super well represented in our traditional audiences. We're planning a festival for February where regional companies compete in a one-act play

competition. Every member of every family should see opportunities for themselves in our audience or on our stage.

#### Is there anything that would be off limits?

We probably wouldn't do anything X-rated. We do things that are considered R-rated with advisory listings. We don't like to surprise the audience. Our main stage season of plays is always a mix. There's always a children and family friendly holiday show. There's always a murder mystery thriller, which is usually more for adults. There's always comedy.

If there's a play that shows some kind of violence, it's all choreographed, safe, rehearsed stunts. Even with physical intimacy, we have intimacy coordinators. So everything's being done by consent if there's a love scene.

We want to be part of whatever cultural debates people are having and not put hard limits on freedom of speech because we have subscribers that are from all sides of the political spectrum. We do sometimes have people leave a show if they say this is not my cup of tea, but rarely do they want to cause trouble about it and march and protest. I hope we will show people that art is a middle road. Art is where it's safe to have these hard discussions and grapple with issues that may be not so easy to talk about in your living room.

#### How has growing up in Albuquerque shaped your personal artistic identity?

I came to a lot of my playwriting from an identity of knowing that sort of cultural crossroads that we all experience here, the angle of the Spanish, the Native American. I find that just super fascinating and I don't know that you have writers from other towns think about that in quite the same way. When I wanted to be an actor, I had already been acting my little heart out for years here and at the same time working a day job, so I knew that I was gonna have to hustle and side hustle simultaneously. I think that's a very Albuquerque thing — fake it until you make it, but you gotta pay the bills while you're making it. I just love the work ethic that comes with the theater people here that I know.



## Letter to the Editor: Mars Ain't the Place to Raise Your Kids



**T**he WORST place on Earth for us humans to live is FAR BETTER than the BEST place on our sun's/other planets. The light from the sun 93 million miles away from Earth takes 8 minutes to reach us. Light travels at 186,000 miles per SECOND. 186,000 miles per SECOND is 60 times 186,000 miles per MINUTE. 186,000 miles per SECOND is 3,600 times 186,000 miles per HOUR.

The NEXT CLOSEST star after our sun is 4 light years away from us. The light from that star takes 4 years to reach us —

traveling at 186,000 miles per SECOND. Even if that star had a planet with living conditions like Earth, a one-way trip there would take 4 years traveling at 186,000 miles per SECOND. NO rocket spaceship travels anywhere near 186,000 miles per HOUR. 186,000 miles per SECOND is 3,600 times 186,000 miles per HOUR. So even if a rocket spaceship could travel 186,000 miles per HOUR — reaching that next closest star's planet would take more than 14,000 YEARS!

How can any INTELLIGENT EDUCATED SPACE SCIENTIST

believe we 8 BILLION humans can find, travel to and live well somewhere in SPACE? To escape our SICK Mother Earth where we have caused the CATASTROPHIC CLIMATE CRISIS.

For scientists or anyone to swallow this INSANE FANTASY is as DAMN FOOLISH as believing in a FAIR, LOVING PARENT GOD who hears and answers MILLIONS of sincere desperate prayers for help from starvation, hurricanes, floods, fires, earthquakes, tornadoes, family violence, rape, torture, WAR...

Many educated scientists rightly see through and REJECT religious make-believe about a FAIR, LOVING PARENT GOD, but do some of these educated scientists believe the CRAZY FANTASY about space travel and living somewhere in space? SPACE is VAST, LONELY, COLD and mostly DARK!

INSANE FANTASIES come in MANY flavors — religious or so-called scientific.

The rockets for space travel WORSEN the Earth's climate crisis.

I ENJOY living SIMPLY — BELOW THE U.S. POVERTY LEVEL to do LESS damage to OUR ONLY HOME — Mother Earth!

When Gandhi was asked what worried him most, he said the hardness of heart of the educated.

My favorite words from Albert Einstein, "More and more I have come to value charity and love of others above everything else — all our lauded technological progress — our very civilization is like an ax in the hand of a pathological criminal."

-Don Schrader

## Line of Succession

**I**'ve been thinking more these days about Vice President Kamala Harris, her role as vice president and the ever-present is-she-ready question.

Being second in line is something I know a little about but on a smaller scale. For eight years, I served as lieutenant governor to Gov. Bill Richardson. Another similarity we share is being the first women to serve in the offices mentioned.

In New Mexico, the lieutenant governor is elected in a primary and becomes part of the ticket. It's somewhat like an arranged marriage with the voters deciding who should be part of the ceremony.

At the federal level, each party's nominee for president selects their running mate through a vetting process and confirmation of convention delegates.

Constitutional responsibilities are remarkably similar. Both are first in the line of succession to be chief executive (governor or president). Both serve as president of the Senate, presiding over the body. Neither has the power to vote unless the Senate is evenly divided on a matter.

An additional role for the vice president is the responsibility of opening, counting and announcing the electoral votes in a joint session of Congress following a presidential election.

Most Americans had been unaware of this provision until Jan. 6, 2021, when President Donald Trump intervened and tried to interrupt that process. Vice President Mike Pence leaned into his constitutional duty. The Constitution held strong despite a violent assault on the Capitol that day.

Both offices, lieutenant governor and vice president, have evolved over time.

In New Mexico lieutenant governors received no salary until the term of Lt. Gov. Roberto Mondragon, who served two non successive terms.

Additionally, as time passed, the lieutenant governor became a member of the governor's cabinet and chair of several statutory boards designated in legislation. During my time I became chair of the first Children's Cabinet. We acted as a mini cabinet advising

the governor about children's issues and the role departments could play in improving children's lives.

The vice president's responsibilities also grew. In 1949 the vice president became a member of the National Security Council, thanks to President Harry Truman. Truman realized that should succession happen for any reason, vice presidents needed to be fully informed. Over time, vice presidents were included in the president's daily intelligence briefings, and that is still the case today.

Still, the readiness and success in ascending to the top stop is partially determined by the governor or president and the role they carve out with their running mates.

Most of us, when first elected, had to grow into the position. In the case of a lieutenant governor and vice president, it also depends on establishing a trusted relationship with the top of the ticket.

### Corner to Corner



Diane Denish

Vice President Harris acknowledged early on that building her relationship with President Joe Biden was her first job. All indications are that Biden and Harris have done that with weekly lunches and her inclusion in staff meetings and briefings.

The Dobbs decision, which eliminates a woman's right to reproductive care, created a new focus for Harris. She became the administration's outspoken critic of the consequences of the decision. She has also been a key player on voters' rights and a strong spokesperson for the president's economic agenda.

At the end of 2023, Harris had cast more tie-breaking votes than any other vice president — 32 of them — including two critical economic bills: the Inflation Reduction Act and the American Rescue Plan, which helped rebuild the economy after the pandemic.

For all the current discussion of "Is she ready?" Yes. If and when the time comes. Her life experience, public service and strong values make her as ready as any of us can be to assume a job we have not held before.





# 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!

## Washington Looks to Psychedelics Reform

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

Psychedelic activists in Washington state are pushing to get a voter initiative on the ballot to legalize psychedelics for personal use.

The measure would legalize the cultivation and possession of “natural psychedelics” — including psilocybin mushrooms, DMT and mescaline — for adults over 21. It expressly forbids the use of psychedelics in public areas.

It wouldn't create a regulated retail market, but would allow for “paid supportive services” provided by unlicensed providers. The services would include “support, supervision, guidance, avocational education, or related services in order to mitigate risk, reduce harm, or enhance benefits from the use of natural psychedelics.”

The measure would also explicitly ban the sale of psychedelics outside of receiving legitimate paid supportive services.

Initiative organizers, the Responsible Entheogen Access and Community Healing Coalition Washington, wrote online that “Washingtonians are capable of making informed choices regarding their use of natural psychedelics, as they do with alcohol and cannabis.”

### Minn. home growers sue for right to sell

Activists in Minnesota are suing the state to allow home cannabis cultivators to sell their plant products without a license, claiming that the state's



constitution gives individuals the right to sell the products of their own “farm or garden.”

According to MinnPost, Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison has asked the presiding judge to dismiss the case.

The suit cites a 120-year-old provision in the state's constitution that says, “Any person may sell or peddle the products of the farm or garden occupied and cultivated by him without obtaining a license therefor.”

In its response, the state said the Minnesota constitution does not allow individuals to sell controlled substances without a license.

### North Dakota Hemp Faces New Regulations

Hemp retailers in North Dakota are bucking new cannabis rules that recently went into effect.

According to *North Dakota Monitor*, new cannabis rules that went into effect at the beginning of July are causing headaches for hemp retailers.

The new rules create more stringent guidelines for labeling marijuana products with proof of a certificate of analysis from a certified lab about the products' cannabinoid content. The labels will also have to list all ingredients and allergens, recommend a serving size, provide consumer warnings,

display nutritional data and include a warning to prevent consumption by minors. Companies are also prohibited from making any health claims on the label.

The law also defines THC more broadly, and prohibits the sale of products containing the cannabinoid precursor THCa and any additional precursor or any other THC variants.

The new regulations are meant to halt the sale of hemp-derived intoxicants, but hemp retailers told reporters that they represent more hassles for an already tough to manage industry.



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File No.

24 E 673

In The General Court Of Justice

Superior Court Division Before the Clerk

LETTERS

TESTAMENTARY

G.S. 28A-6-1; 28A-6-3; 28A-11-1; 36C-2-209

The Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction of the probate of wills and the administration of estates, and upon application of the fiduciary, has adjudged legally sufficient the qualification of the fiduciary named below and orders that Letters be issued in the above estate.

The fiduciary is fully authorized by the laws of North Carolina to receive and administer all of the assets belonging to the estate, and these Letters are issued to attest to that authority and to certify that it is now in full force and effect.

Witness my hand and the Seal of the Superior Court.

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LECIA DRYE SIMMONS 5385 TALMAGE ST

CATAWBA, NC 28609

Title Of Fiduciary 1

Name And Address Of Fiduciary 2

Title Of Fiduciary 2

Date Of Qualification

Clerk Of Superior Court

EXECUTOR

Date Of Issuance

Signature

06/12/2024

WILLIAM W. BAGGS

EX OFFICIO JUDGE OF PROBATE

06/12/2024

Deputy CSC

☐ Assistant CSC

Clerk Of Superior Court

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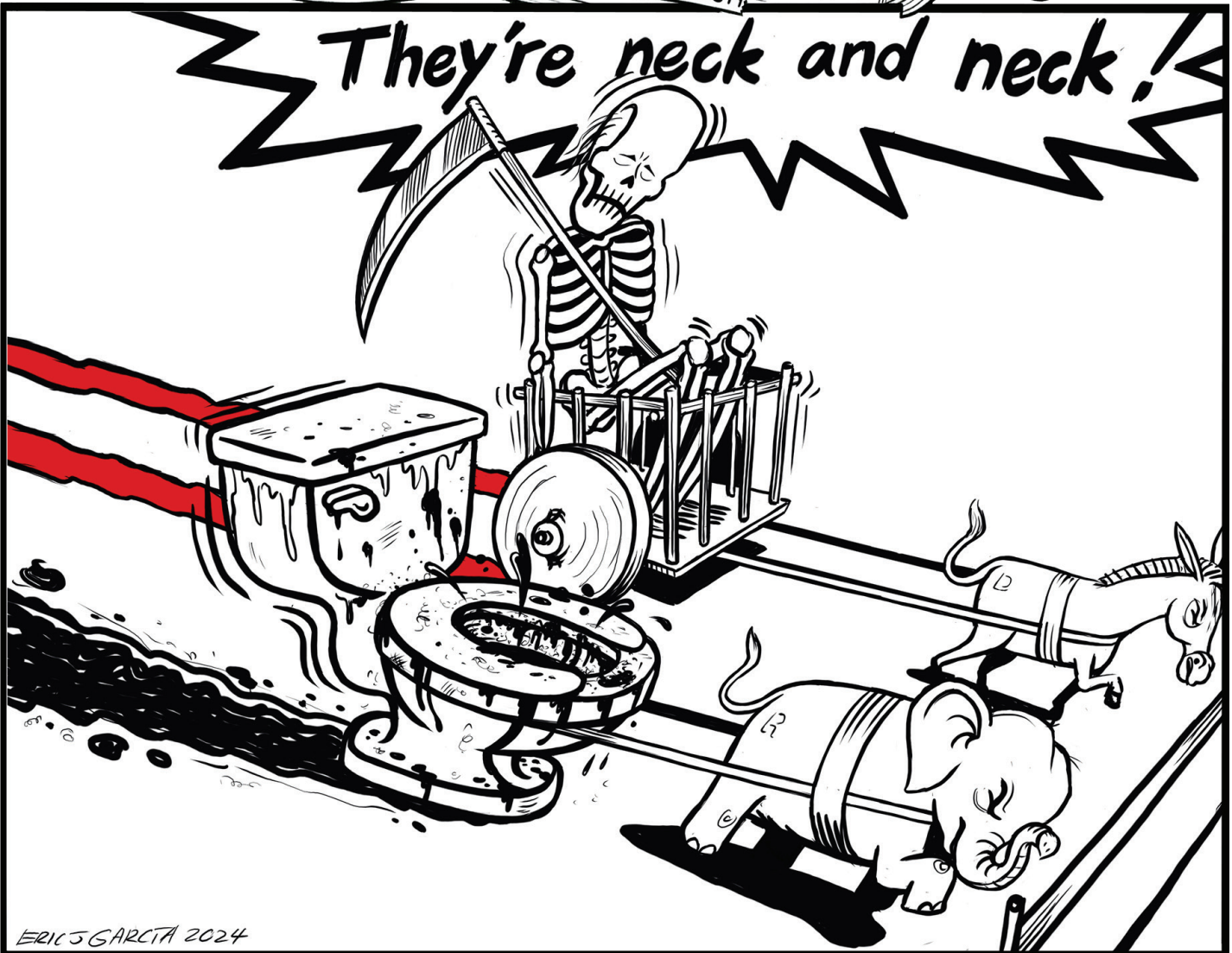
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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

Week of July 17

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**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Have you ever been given a Starbucks gift card but then neglected to use it? Many people fail to cash in such freebies. Believe it or not, there are also folks who buy lottery tickets that turn out to have the winning number—but they never actually claim their rewards. Don't be like them in the coming weeks, Aries. Be aggressive about cashing in on the offers you receive, even subtle and shy offers. Don't let invitations and opportunities go to waste. Be alert for good luck, and seize it.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** The coming weeks will be a favorable time to enhance your relationship with food. In every way you can imagine, be smart and discerning as you plan and eat your meals. Here are ideas to ponder: 1. Do you know exactly which foods are best for your unique body? 2. Are you sufficiently relaxed and emotionally present when you eat? 3. Could you upgrade your willpower to ensure you joyfully gravitate toward what's healthiest? 4. Do you have any bad habits you could outgrow? 5. Is your approach to eating affected by problematic emotions that you could heal? 6. Are you willing to try improving things incrementally without insisting on being perfect?

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Hybridization could be a fun theme for you in the coming weeks. You're likely to align yourself with cosmic rhythms if you explore the joys and challenges of creating amalgamations, medleys, and mash-ups. Your spirit creatures will be the liger, which is a cross between a lion and a tiger, and a mule, a cross between a horse and a donkey. But please note that your spirit creatures will not be impossible hybrids like a giroose (a cross between a giraffe and a moose) or a coyadger (a cross between a coyote and a badger). It's good to be experimental and audacious in your mixing and matching, but not lunatic delusional.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** In 1986, Cancerian singer-songwriter George Michael released his song "A Different Corner." It was a big hit. Never before in British pop music had an artist done what Michael accomplished: wrote, sang, arranged, and produced the tune, and played all the instruments. I foresee the possibility of a similar proficiency in your near future, Cancerian—if you want it. Maybe you would prefer to collaborate with others in your big projects, but if you choose, you could perform minor miracles all by yourself.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** In the Biblical allegory of Noah and the Ark, God warns Noah about an impending flood and commands him to build a giant lifeboat to save living things from extinction. Noah obeys. When the heavy rains come, he, his family, and many creatures board the boat to weather the storm. After 40 days and nights of inundation, they are all safe but stranded in a newly created sea. Hoping for a sign of where they might seek sanctuary, Noah sends out a dove to reconnoiter for dry land. But it returns with no clues. A week later, Noah dispatches a second dove. It returns with an olive leaf, showing that the earth is drying out and land is nearby. Dear Leo, your adventure isn't as dire and dramatic as Noah's, but I'm happy to tell you it's time for you to do the equivalent of sending two doves out to explore.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** According to an ancient Chinese proverb, "An ant on the move does more than a dozing ox." I will add a corollary: An ant may be able to accomplish feats an ox can't. For instance, I have observed an ant carrying a potato chip back to its nest, and I doubt that an ox could tote a potato chip without mangling it. Anyway, Virgo, this is my way of telling you that if you must choose between your inspiration being an ant or an ox in the coming days, choose the ant. Be meticulous, persistent, and industrious rather than big, strong, and rugged.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** "If it sounds too good to be true, it always is," said stage magician Ricky Jay. I only partially agree with him. While I think it's usually wise to use his formula as a fundamental principle, I suspect it won't entirely apply to you in the coming weeks. At least one thing and possibly as many as three may sound too good to be true—but will in fact be true. So if you're tempted to be hyper-skeptical, tamp down that attitude a bit. Open yourself to the possibilities of amazing grace and minor miracles.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** What is the largest thing ever sold in human history? It was a 530-million-acre chunk of land in North America. In 1803, the French government sold it to the American government for \$15 million. It stretched from what's now Louisiana to Montana. Here's the twist to the story: The land peddled by France and acquired by the US actually belonged to the Indigenous people who had lived there for many generations. The two nations pretended they had the right to make the transaction. I bring this to your attention, Scorpio, because the coming weeks will be an excellent time for you to make a big, important purchase or sale—as long as you have the authentic rights to do so. Make sure there are no hidden agendas or strings attached. Be thorough in your vetting.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** An antiques dealer named Laura Young bought a marble bust of a distinguished man at a thrift store in Austin, Texas. Later she discovered that it was over 2,000 years old and worth far more than the \$35 she had paid for it. It depicted a Roman military leader named Drusus the Elder. I foresee similar themes unfolding in your life, Sagittarius. Possible variations: 1. You come into possession of something that's more valuable than it initially appears. 2. You connect with an influence that's weightier than it initially appears. 3. A lucky accident unfolds, bringing unexpected goodies. 4. A seemingly ordinary thing turns out to be an interesting thing in disguise.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** My childhood friend Jeanine used to say, "The best proof of friendship is when someone gives you half their candy bar. The best proof of fantastic friendship is when they give you even more than half." And then she would hand me more than half of her Snickers bar, Milky Way, or Butterfinger. In accordance with astrological omens, I invite you to give away at least half your candy to those you care for in the coming days. It's a phase of your astrological cycle when you will benefit from offering extra special affection and rewards to the allies who provide you with so much love and support.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** If you're a teacher, it's a favorable time to enjoy a stint as a student—and vice versa. If you're a healthcare worker trained in Western medicine, it's an excellent phase to explore alternative healing practices. If you're a scientist, I suggest you read some holy and outrageous poetry, and if you're a sensitive, introverted mystic, get better informed about messy political issues. In other words, dear Aquarius, open a channel to parts of reality you normally ignore or neglect. Fill in the gaps in your education. Seek out surprise and awakening.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Jane Brunette, a writer I admire, uses the made-up work "plurk" to refer to her favorite activity: a blend of play and work. I have always aspired to make that my core approach, too. I play at my work and work at my play. As much as possible, I have fun while I'm doing the labor-intensive tasks that earn me a living and fulfill my creative urges. And I invoke a disciplined, diligent attitude as I pursue the tasks and projects that bring me pleasure and amusement. I highly recommend you expand and refine your own ability as a plurker in the coming weeks, Pisces. (Jane Brunette is here: flamingseed.com)

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Dropped, as in the polls

5 This-and-that dish

9 Country singer Hill

14 Tie up

15 Obsessed with

16 Listlessness

17 Telltale sign

18 Photo's focal point

20 Section of Manhattan

22 Salad follower

23 A Kardashian

24 Devours

26 Towel inscription

27 Beer after a shot

30 London length

32 Slithering danger

34 Childishly silly

38 Valuable rock

39 Leaching product

40 Not online, to a texter

41 \_\_\_\_ & Bradstreet

42 Symbol on the "5" key

44 Low-traffic street

46 Scents

48 Undercover ops

49 Go yachting

52 Heist haul

54 Superlative suffix

55 "Happy Days" malt shop owner

57 Prep period

61 Brooklyn's locale

63 Caustic chemical

64 Set right

65 Like cupcakes, usually

66 Vampire's weapon

67 Challenges

68 Nov. honorees

69 Bug out

6 Positive pole

7 View on Hulu, say

8 Tiller's tool

9 Maidenhair, e.g.

10 Bar request

11 Harden

12 Radio feature

13 Tannery inventory

19 Silent signals

21 Got a whiff of

25 Lukewarm

27 Trim, as a photo

28 Tortoise racer

29 Debbie or Ryan

31 Like siblings

33 Back-in-style style

35 Exactly alike

36 Breathing apparatus?

37 They may be loose or split

43 Atomizer scent

45 Spinning wheel attachment

47 Comfort

49 Caesar, for one

50 Bakery output

51 Word with ear or peace

53 Dogma

56 Pot covers

58 Tosses in

59 Fielder's cry

60 Place for a fringe

62 Roman 54

DOWN

1 Tart plum

2 Mongolian monk

3 Michelle Kwan, e.g.

4 Doc Holliday was one, briefly

5 Stereo system

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Solution to Crossword





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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.

We have worked with Wells Fargo to provide hundreds of our customers with many different rate plans that accommodate their budget. Wells Fargo offers many different options based on your credit.



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

If you're not ready to upgrade your system yet, we have some of the best service technicians in the state. Sometimes your system just needs a tune up and some maintenance to get it operating properly and heating or cooling your house like it should. We offer very affordable maintenance packages and repair options.

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