

FREE

JULY 24, 2024  
VOLUME 05 | ISSUE 30

# The Paper.

DEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS

GALLERY  
SHOWS  
OFF  
BIG-NAME  
ART



Weems Gallery  
and Framing is  
holding its  
annual resale  
show

By Michael Hodock p. 9



Amapola Gallery Featured Display  
for August ~ “Bangles and Blossoms”

MEET THE ARTISTS

Mary Ellen Merrigan and her metal jewelry plus  
flower-themed paintings and collages by Kay Richards.

Opening reception ~ Friday, August 2, 2 to 5 PM.

The exhibit runs through August

Amapola artists' co-op Gallery, open daily 10 to 5.  
Experience all-local art at its finest,  
in our 44th year in Old Town!  
On The Plaza upstairs at 205 Romero, NW.  
505-242-4311 [www.Amapola-gallery.com](http://www.Amapola-gallery.com)











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THC

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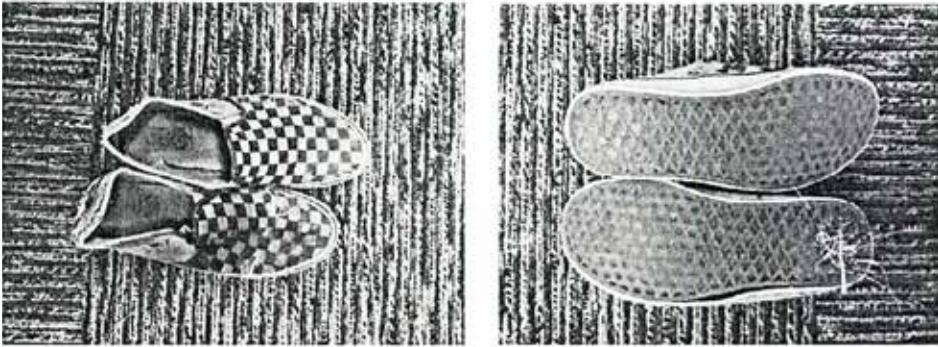
2

ALBUQUERQUE'S INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWS



# FBI Warrant Claims Couple Started Salt Fire

16 ‘suspicious’ fire starts in area detected since early May, according to recently unsealed warrant



Top View

Bottom View

These Vans sneakers were linked to several “suspicious” wildfires on the Mescalero Apache Reservation, including the Salt Fire, according to a federal search warrant application. (Source: FBI)

Source

This story is republished from Source NM as a part of our commitment to bringing you the best in independent news coverage that matters to Albuquerque.

By Patrick Lohmann, Source NM

A federal search warrant application filed last week revealed that the FBI believes two people are responsible for igniting the Salt Fire that began June 17 and burned more than 7,000 acres in southeastern New Mexico.

According to the July 11 document signed by an FBI agent, the suspects are a man and woman. The pair, who are boyfriend and girlfriend, are accused of starting five other “suspicious” wildfires occurring on the Mescalero Apache Reservation since early May.

Source New Mexico is not identifying either person because they have not been charged with a crime. The man did not respond to a request for comment Sunday, though he did post on Facebook last month denying any involvement in the fires.

The man claimed to law enforcement and on social media that he is a wildland firefighter, plus posted photos and videos of himself in a firefighter uniform responding to fires in Arizona and Utah, along with a TikTok of himself

in a wildland firefighter training exercise.

The South Fork and Salt fires began within a couple hours of each other on June 17, and quickly grew in size and intensity, ultimately destroying at least 850 homes in and around Ruidoso. Two people died in the aftermath of the South Fork Fire, and flooding continues in the area as a result of the fires. The Salt Fire prompted thousands to flee as it approached Ruidoso Downs.

Investigators concluded that the South Fork Fire began with a lightning strike prior to June 17, though they have since suggested the Salt Fire was human-caused by offering rewards up to \$10,000 for information about the “person or persons responsible” for igniting it.

The search warrant application reveals that law enforcement had been investigating a string of suspicious wildfire starts in the area since early May, an investigation that “intensified” when the FBI became involved after the South Fork and Salt fires began, according to the warrant application.

Since May 3, there have been 16 “suspicious” wildfire starts in a 25-square mile area, including the Salt Fire, on the Mescalero Apache Reservation, according to the warrant application.

Among the “suspicious” wildfires are four that occurred between June 16 and 18 near the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## Weak in Review: July 24

Quick hits on this week’s news bits

Vandals last week filled an Old Town fountain surrounding a statue of Don Francisco Cuervo y Valdes with dish soap, causing mountains of suds.

Luckily, the soap used is tough on grease, but gentle on statues.



The Albuquerque zoo is launching its Australian Lorikeet Experience where visitors can feed the colorful birds.

Crikey, those are some rippa birds, mate!

The Sunport saw delayed flights thanks to the global tech outage last week.

Sure, being stranded at an airport is stressful, but have you ever had a pound of frozen green chile melting in your bag while you wait?

Hulk Hogan showed up to the Republican National Convention and tore his shirt off in true form.

Hey Hulk, maybe sit this one out, brother.

The new *Twisters* film sold millions of dollars in tickets during its opening weekend.

We’re sure it’s a fun movie, but we spent our money on the *Twisters* with curly fries and breakfast burritos.



President Joe Biden dropped out of his race and endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris as his replacement.

Hear that? Those are the dog whistles from people losing their minds over the idea of a woman of color becoming president.

A dispensary in Bernalillo is suing the town for being forced to abandon the building’s bright green facade.

Might we suggest opting for more of a ’90s brick weed brown color?

Albuquerque’s Cookies Dispensary was hit with a \$350,000 fine for a number of violations related to its grand opening last year.

The good news: The company was smart enough not to paint the building green.

Federal, county and city law enforcement are teaming up to combat crimes committed by youthful offenders.

Or as everyone’s favorite cousin from back east says, “The youts.”





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Salt Fire ignition location and burned less than a quarter-acre.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs confirmed last week to *Source New Mexico* that the causes of those four other fires, known as the Penn Scott Fire, the 244 Penn Scott Fire, the Carrizo Fire and the Trails Fire, were being investigated along with the Salt Fire.

The warrant application sought a federal judge's approval to seize a pair of Vans sneakers belonging to the woman that the FBI alleges were worn at the site of one or more of the suspicious wildfires. A judge quickly approved the request, and it was executed days later. The FBI agent who wrote the request noted that the woman voluntarily provided her shoes to law enforcement.

The FBI linked the couple to six of the wildfires after reviewing evidence like tire treads and footprints, and interviewing witnesses who saw a dark-colored Jeep flee the scenes of several fires.

The FBI agent also noted that the Salt Fire, reported just two hours after the South Fork Fire began, drew resources away from the suppression efforts.

Speculation about the causes of the South Fork and Salt fires has built since they began and continued even after investigators concluded lighting started the South Fork Fire. Local officials are calling on the Bureau of Indian Affairs to release more information about its determination that a lightning strike started the South Fork Fire, saying racist rumors directed at the Mescalero Apache tribe are flying in the absence of more information.

Lynn Crawford, Ruidoso's mayor, in a recent interview called on members of the public not to direct blame against an entire group for the alleged actions of a few.

"I don't want you to start condemning everybody at the (Mescalero) tribe for what somebody may or may not have done," he said. "And so, all that we're asking for is patience. I know that's hard."

Mescalero Apache President Thora Padilla did not respond to an email seeking comment Sunday.



The shoe prints found at the site of "suspicious" wildfires on May 3 and June 17, according to the document. (Source: FBI)

The following investigation into the fires began in early May, according to the search warrant application first reported by the *Albuquerque Journal*. The application was unsealed July 16.

Around 11 a.m. on May 3, two juveniles told local police they witnessed a dark-colored Jeep flee the area where a small wildfire was reported. Police then contacted dispatch and learned that the man identified in the search warrant application made the first call to dispatchers about the fire.

The officer contacted the man, who claimed he spotted smoke coming from the area and tried to find it and put it out. He told police he was a wildland firefighter and, upon finding the fire, tried to tamp it out with a branch and his fire boots.

"Prior to being asked, (the man) stated that he did not start the fire," according to the warrant.

On May 7, around noon, another fire at Whitetail Summit was reported to dispatch. The same officer responded to the scene and saw a dark-colored Jeep driving at high speeds away from the fire. Police found a shoe print near the scene belonging to a Vans sneaker.

Around 10 a.m. on May 20, another fire was reported near Salt Well. Nearby homeowners said they saw a Jeep leave the area before police arrived.

On May 23, the Mescalero Tribe put out a statement noting that "for the past three weeks, the reservation has had a few fires start," saying that the tribe and the BIA were monitoring the situation and asking for people to call dispatch if they see something "suspicious or peculiar."

About two weeks later, police responded to another string of suspicious wildfires, including the Salt Fire. The first was June 16 around 7:45 p.m.

Around 8 a.m. the next morning, about three-tenths of a mile from the June 16 fire start, firefighters responded to another fire and noticed a Vans sneaker footprint with the same "tread pattern" as was seen after the fire May 7.

An officer spotted tire tracks later that day at another wildfire start around 12:43 p.m., tracks that he believed to belong to the ones on the dark-colored Jeep that was on police's radar. The Jeep tires were Firestones, "different than typical stock or street tires," and had a unique "double dimple" on the edge

of the tread, according to the warrant.

Around 2 p.m. on the 17th, the Salt Fire was reported to dispatchers. Starting just hours after the South Fork Fire, resources, including aircraft, were diverted from the South Fork Fire to assist suppression of the Salt Fire, according to the warrant.

Less than a mile away from the Salt Fire ignition site, police spotted the Jeep on a road leading away from the site and found the man and woman inside, according to the warrant. The FBI agent noted that, unlike the May 3 fire start that the man reported, this time he "never reported this fire or attempted to fight the fire."

Police questioned the couple again on June 25, and they gave consent for law enforcement to search their phones and to collect the Vans sneakers.

Around 9 p.m. the day before being questioned, the man posted on Facebook denying any involvement in the fires. "I haven't been charged, nor will I ever," he wrote. "I'm a wildland firefighter...I would never put my land or people in jeopardy."





Music Under the Stars: Ellington! A Great American Songbook Tribute to Duke Ellington

New Mexico Jazz Workshop has assembled vocalist Hillary Smith, saxophonist Kanoa Kaluhiwa, trumpet player Sidney Hollander, pianist John Funkhouser, bassist Asher Barreras and drummer Johah Minkus to pay tribute to jazz great Duke Ellington with this "deep dive" concert featuring the music of the legendary American composer. Through "his compositions and the emotions they inspire" the Ellington-inspired ensemble presents a night of "dramatic improvisation and conversation amongst friends of the sounds of jazz." Things get swinging over at the Albuquerque Museum's outdoor amphitheater (2000 Mountain Rd. NW) on Saturday, July 27 at 7 p.m. Tickets (tickets.holdmyticket.com/tickets/432589) are \$25 general admission and \$22 for students.

THURSDAY, JULY 25

Class / Workshop

Sips & Myths \$125 6-8:30 pm  
Submaterial 3831 Midway Place  
NE, ABQ

Comedy

Improv Jam 7:30-8:30 pm The  
Box Performance Space 114 Gold  
Ave SW

Community

Bernalillo County 4-H County  
Fair 8 am-6 pm EXPO New  
Mexico 300 San Pedro Dr NE

Dance

International Thursday w/  
Precious tha Jewel & DJ Darly 9  
pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art  
1501 First St. NW

Exhibit

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

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

Film

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

Drive-In Movie - Ghostbusters:  
Frozen Empire 7-10:30 pm  
Albuquerque International  
Balloon Fiesta Park 4401 Alameda  
Blvd NE

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 - Cal Haines Trio  
\$15-\$30 7:30-9:30 pm Outpost  
Performance Space 210 Yale Blvd.  
SE

Ancient Bones 7-9 pm Tractor  
Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE

Half Calf (Cali) with Cat Calling  
Canines, Dot Wall, Mamimis  
Revenge, + \$5 7-10:30 pm JUNO  
brewery + cafe + art 1501 1st Street  
Northwest

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**INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS**  
Fri July 26 10:30pm / Sun July 28 1:00pm

**SATURDAY MORNING 'TOONS** returns!  
Saturday July 27 11:30am

**TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE 2 (1986)**  
Saturday July 27 10:30pm

Hong Kong classic **JULY RHAPSODY**  
Mon–Wed July 29–31 3:45, 6:00

Hot take on the classic heist genre: **MIDAS**  
Mon–Wed July 29–31 8:15

Silent horror **L'INFERNO (1911)** with a  
film score performed live by **MONTOPOLIS**  
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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

Peso Pluma Night \$5 7-10 pm  
Bosque Brewing Co. West 2220  
Unser Blvd. NW

Rachel Kelli 6-8:30 pm D.H.  
Lescombes Winery & Bistro 901  
Rio Grande Blvd NW #B-100

Roger Jameson and the Jaded  
Heart Band 6-9 pm Canteen  
Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road  
Northeast

Ryan Painter and the Resistors  
6-9 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381  
Aztec Road Northeast

Sarah Shook 8-11 pm Launchpad  
618 Central Ave SW

#### Performance

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

#### Class / Workshop

Explora teams with Sandia  
National Labs to demonstrate  
extended reality in XR Demo  
Day 10 am-1 pm Explora 1701  
Mountain Rd NW

#### Comedy

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

Zach Abeyta & Friends: W/  
Special Headliner Pedro Gonzales  
\$19 7:30-9 pm Fuzzy Bunny 515  
Central Ave NW

Zoltan Kaszas \$25-\$35 7-7 pm  
Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa  
Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam  
Road, Santa Ana Pueblo

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Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa  
Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam  
Road, Santa Ana Pueblo

#### Community

Bernalillo County 4-H County  
Fair 8 am-6 pm EXPO New  
Mexico 300 San Pedro Dr NE

#### Dance

Howeya Family Traditional Dance  
Group (Acoma) 2-3pm Indian  
Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th  
Street NW

#### Film

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

Movies in the Park: 101  
Dalmatians 7-10 pm Paradise Hills  
Community Center 5901 Paradise  
Blvd NW

#### Markets

La Familia Farmer's Market 5-8  
pm Westside Community Center  
1250 Isleta Blvd SW

#### Miscellaneous

Hops and Screams \$30 7-9 pm  
Painted Lady Bed & Brew 1100  
Bellamah Ave. NW

#### Music

BTTR BOPS 2 8-11:30 pm  
Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW

Casa Flamenca's Summer Season  
continues \$40 8-9:30 pm Casa  
Flamenca 401 Rio Grande  
Boulevard NW

Disko Rumba 8-12:30 am Sister  
407 Central Ave. NW

Gin & Jazz: Summer Love Edition  
5-10 pm Tractor Brewing Wells  
Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

Happy Hour at The Lobo with  
Bad Habit 6 pm The Historic  
Lobo Theater - Lounge & Event  
Venue 3013 Central Ave NE

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

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

RJ Perez 6-9 pm Boxing Bear  
Brewing Co. (Firestone Taproom  
and Brewery) 8420 Firestone  
Lane NE

Salsa Under the Stars ft. Nosotros  
\$17-\$20 7-10 pm Albuquerque  
Museum 2000 Mountain Road  
NW

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

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



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### OUTDOOR CLASSES · June 10 - August 3

Wednesdays 5:00-6:00pm

Saturdays 9:30-10:30am

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All classes \$0-\$20 sliding scale!

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✓ Stay physically active

✓ Make new friends

✓ Boost confidence & creativity





Uncle Kracker \$18-\$249 9 pm-2 pm The Dirty Bourbon Dance Hall & Saloon 9800 Montgomery Blvd NE

Ziggy Marley \$70-\$90 8-9:30 pm Isleta Resort & Casino 11000 Broadway Blvd SE

Zoo Music: Blair Crimmins & The Hookers \$9-\$18 7-8:30 pm Albuquerque BioPark-Zoo 903 10th Street SW

Performance

Brews & Boos \$30 7-9 pm Painted Lady Bed & Brew 1100 Bellamah Ave. NW

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

Pretty Much It: Hot Saw Summer \$45 8-10 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 First St. NW

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

Reading

The Wet Heat Dry Heat Overheat Tour 6 pm Books on the Bosque 6261 Riverside Plaza Ln

Class / Workshop

Contemporary acrylic painting class \$40 2-4:30 pm Artisan ABQ 3017 Monte Vista Blvd. NE

Lughnasadh 101 \$13 7-8 pm Abitha's Metaphysical Shop 2231 Wyoming Blvd NE

Comedy

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

Little Ray's Comedy Night \$15-\$35 8-10 pm The Grill on San Mateo 3300 San Mateo Blvd. NE B2

Zoltan Kaszas \$25-\$35 7-7 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo

Zoltan Kaszas \$25-\$35 9:30-11 pm Quezada's Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star 54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana Pueblo

Community

Christmas in July 11 am-2 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW

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

Dana Tai Soon Burgess, Teaching Artist in Residence 6 pm Hiland Theater 4800 Central Ave SE

Howeya Family Traditional Dance Group (Acoma) 2-3pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW

Malinda LaVelle and Emmaly Wiederholt present "What the Hell Happened in San Francisco?" \$30-\$40 7-9 pm FUSION 700-708 First St. NW

Family/Kids

IPCC's Family Story Time and Clay Pottery Workshop 2-3 pm Indian Pueblo Cultural Center 2401 12th Street NW

S.T.E.A.M. Nights at the Balloon Museum 5:30-7:30 pm Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum 9201 Balloon Museum Drive NE

Film

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

[EVENTS.] The Paper.

Games

A Much Anticipated Affair: A D&D Wedding Planning Adventure 12:30-5:30 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

Literature/Poetry

Book Launch for "Ghost Stories of Central New Mexico" 7-9 pm Painted Lady Bed & Brew 1100 Bellamah Ave. NW

RJ the Story Guy Book Signing 11:30 am-4:30 pm Treasure House Books & Gifts 2012 S Plaza St NW A

Miscellaneous

Parkland Village Presents: A Parkland Hills Historic District Tour \$10 10-11:30 am Parkland Hills Neighborhood

Music

Anesthesia 8-11 pm Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW

Benny the Butcher \$30-\$100 8 pm-12 am Historic El Rey Theatre 622 Central Ave SW

Casa Flamenca's Summer Season continues \$40 8-9:30 pm Casa Flamenca 401 Rio Grande Boulevard NW

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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.

Kidzz Mechanical

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- kidzzusa.com

Ellington! A Great American Songbook Tribute to Duke Ellington \$22-\$25 7-9 pm Albuquerque Museum 2000 Mountain Road NW

Emo Nite Live 7-9 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

Jacob Chavez 7-9 pm Tractor Brewing Nob Hill 118 Tulane SE

James Whiton 6-9 pm Albuquerque Distilling 5001 Central Ave NE Suite A5

Jeremy Bosch In Concert Featuring The New Mexico Jazz Latino Orchestra \$29-\$33 7:30-9:30 pm National Hispanic Cultural Center 1701 4th Street Southwest

Lobo Theater Summer Series: Adam Paddock and Lillie Kolich \$15-\$30 7-11:30 pm The Historic Lobo Theater - Lounge & Event Venue 3013 Central Ave NE

Manggang Fest III \$10 3 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 First St. NW

Morgue & Crypt Presents: Slasher Bash \$10 7-11 pm Hollow Spirits 1324 1st ST NW

Prefect and New Aesthetic \$10 6-10 pm Black Wall Gallery & Events 2125 San Mateo Blvd NE

RJ Perez 7-9 pm Marble Brewery NE Heights 9904 Montgomery Blvd NE

Restorative Gong Bath \$25 11 am-12 pm The Remedy Day Spa & Wellness Center 113 Vassar Dr SE

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

Summer Music Saturdays: Shane Wallin 1-4 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Summertime in Old Town: Str8 Shot 7-9 pm Old Town Albuquerque 2005 N. Plaza St. NW Albuquerque

Summerween - Halloween in Summer \$15-\$20 8 pm-2 am Effex NightClub 420 Central Avenue Southwest

The King of Pop Resurrected: Invincible Tour 2024 \$25-\$55 7-9 pm South Broadway Cultural Center 1025 Broadway Blvd SE

**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

SUNDAY, JULY 28

**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**  
Stand-up Comedy 7-9 pm The Nob Hill Stage 3619 Copper Avenue Northeast

**Dance**  
Malinda LaVelle and Emmaly Wiederholt present "What the Hell Happened in San Francisco?" \$30-\$40 2-4 pm FUSION 700-708 First St. 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

**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**  
Rachel Bate Book Signing 1:30-3:30 pm Treasure House Books & Gifts 2012 S Plaza St NW A

**Markets**  
Rail Yard Market: Neighborhood Day 10 am-2 pm Albuquerque Rail Yards 722 3rd St SW

**Music**  
Calle 66 6-9 pm The Hall ABQ 107 Jefferson St. NE

Casa Flamenca's Summer Season continues \$40 7-8:30 pm Casa Flamenca 401 Rio Grande Boulevard NW

El Palomazo Norteno \$69-\$119 7-10 pm Kiva Auditorium 2nd St & Marquette Northeast

Fallujah: The Flesh Prevails 10th Anniversary Tour \$22 7:30-11 pm Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW

Jimmy Deveny and the Hold Fast Union 4-7 pm Canteen Brewhouse 2381 Aztec Road Northeast

Summertime in Old Town: Lasotras 1-3 pm Old Town Albuquerque 2005 N. Plaza St. NW Albuquerque

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

**Performance**  
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

MONDAY, JULY 29

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

**Comedy**  
Comedy Night 7-9 pm Flatiron Bites & Brews 6001 San Mateo Blvd NE

Rio Grande's Four Comedy Showcase 6:30-9:30 pm Tractor Brewing Wells Park 1800 Fourth St. NW

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

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

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

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

**Music**  
Dark Divine \$17 8-11 pm Launchpad 618 Central Ave SW

Metal Monday 8-10 pm JUNO brewery + cafe + art 1501 First St. NW

TUESDAY, JULY 30

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

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

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

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

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

Pallbearer \$25-\$30 7-11 pm Sister 407 Central Ave. NW

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



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## Gallery Shows Off Big-Name Art

*Weems Gallery and Framing is holding its annual resale show*

*Weems Gallery & Framing (Roberto E. Rosales / The Paper.)*

By Michael Hodock, The Paper.

**W**eems Gallery and Framing has been around for 45 years and keeps changing with the times. Owner Sheila McVeigh says she has two main goals for the gallery: To keep prices within a wide and affordable range and to give back to the local community. One of the ways she plans to achieve both of these goals is through the gallery's August resale art show and reception with over 250 works by well-known, local artists from their private collections. It's an opportunity for novice collectors to shop locally and hopefully get a bargain or even just to relax after work with a little glass of wine and see some artwork that they may never otherwise see.

McVeigh says a sizable amount of the art up for sale comes from older clients who are trying to downsize their collections later in their lives.

"They've also gone to assisted living or some of them have passed," McVeigh says. "The people that inherit their art, it's not quite what they like or want, so there's a huge opportunity for resale out there."

Weems' long-time appraiser Jack D'Ambrosio partnered with

the gallery to put on last year's debut event. McVeigh says the first show was "a courtesy to all our customers who support us all year." D'Ambrosio died in January, and this year Weems will be remembering him by featuring artwork from his estate.

McVeigh says D'Ambrosio was a self-taught art appraiser who became an avid art collector.

"He would go to a lot of the estate sales, sometimes garage sales. And then he would also go to places like Quarter Lane auctions and Christie's auctions and buy and sell. So he had some good prices."

On display at this year's resale show are prints by Oscar Berninghaus who was a founding member of the Taos Society of Artists. McVeigh says that the prints should be pretty affordable since they are not original paintings. The August event will also showcase both originals and prints by artists such as Peter Hurd, Novella King, Arturo Chávez, Michael McCullough, Will Shuster, Walt Gonske, Bev Doolittle and others.

"It's almost like walking into a museum and seeing things that you never see," McVeigh says. "There's gonna be some things that you can see in the market like [famous artist] Peter Max

that we don't get because that's not someone we carry. However, to get a Peter Max is kind of cool."

In addition to exhibiting, selling and framing artwork, Weems emphasizes educating their customers about the value of the pieces they acquire. The gallery works with local appraisers and has access to auction records from around the world.

McVeigh says that sometimes people don't realize they are donating old pieces of art worth lots of money.

"Especially when someone passes away and they haven't shared that information [with] the people who would inherit everything, and they're kinda like, 'Oh, I don't like the painting here, let's just get rid of it.' That has happened more often than not," she says. "I always encourage people to take a look and do a little research before getting rid of art that they inherited."

McVeigh understands that not everyone has the money — or the space — for large wall art, but she says Weems is a good option for affordable gift ideas.

"We are much more than just a small gallery," McVeigh says. "And we do something that very few people in the country

or the world do, which is, we do professional restoration."

Ari Von Huene, Weems' professional restoration expert has restored a Picasso, so she is well-versed in cleaning up old paintings to look like new, while devaluing them as little as possible.

Weems also hosts events that provide a rare art experience for those who might not be in a position to make a trip to a large gallery or exhibit.

"We have some caretakers that have adult group homes with challenged adults and they bring them here for a couple hours to sketch and it's great. We just set them up with chairs and supplies and they sit here and they sketch and it just makes their day," McVeigh says.

McVeigh says that most importantly, Weems is a laid-back place for locals to go, soak in some really beautiful artwork, and feel good.

"It's our happy place," she says.

**Weems Gallery Resale Art Show**

**Aug. 2 - 17**

**Opening Reception: Aug. 2**

**5 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

**5935 Wyoming Blvd. NE.**

**Free**



# "I HAVE TWO WORDS FOR LONG COVID: THE WORST!"

Albuquerque resident Eric T had been suffering from the lingering effects of Long Covid symptoms. That was until he met Albuquerque's Dr. Andrea Brogdon of Albuquerque Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine and got his life back!

While the initial alarm of the Covid-19 outbreak has subsided, the fallout from the pandemic is ongoing. Many continue to feel long term impacts from their infection. In fact, nearly 23 million Americans (and 100 million people globally) have learned that regardless of the severity of their initial infection, they may continue to experience debilitating symptoms for weeks, months or even years. In a number of these cases, symptoms worsen with time, even turning deadly.

**"I got Covid early last year and it was pretty bad," shares Eric. "I was hospitalized for 9 days and there was a point where I wasn't sure I was going to make it. I'm still here so I guess God had other plans but months passed and I was still gasping for air. I couldn't do everyday tasks like cut the grass or work in the yard, much less enjoy a quick bike ride. And then there was what my doctor called, 'brain fog'. I'd lose my train of thought mid-sentence or forget words for stupid things like plates and toilet paper. It felt like I'd had a stroke more than it did a virus."**

Officially dubbed Long Covid, the aftermath of the original virus has taken on a life of its own. Dozens of symptoms have been reported and include everything from shortness of breath and cognitive issues to a sudden onset of diabetes and cardiothoracic conditions. These symptoms are so well-documented and common that those suffering now qualify for disability assistance.

Unfortunately for Eric and so many others, the treatment options thus far have been limited. "I started with my primary care doctor and saw specialist after specialist. A pulmonologist finally told me, 'This is the best we can do for you, it's time you start thinking about how you're going to live with Long Covid.' Apparently, their best was letting me live what felt like half a life."

Eric wasn't satisfied with that and decided to do his own research, which is how he ended up at AAIM Albuquerque Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine in Albuquerque.

**"I fully believe the human body has the ability to heal itself, but sometimes it needs a little push. I've used acupuncture in the past to help me through a bout of sciatica and just knew if anyone could help me with this Long Covid business, it was going to be Dr. Brogdon."**

You might think that a novel virus needs a novel solution, but if so, you'd only be half right. While the staff at AAIM Acupuncture does use innovative solutions like ATP Resonance BioTherapy® to combat Long Covid, because it aids in the healing and repair of specific cells and tissues, it's a much more time-tested science that's getting patients back to living their lives.

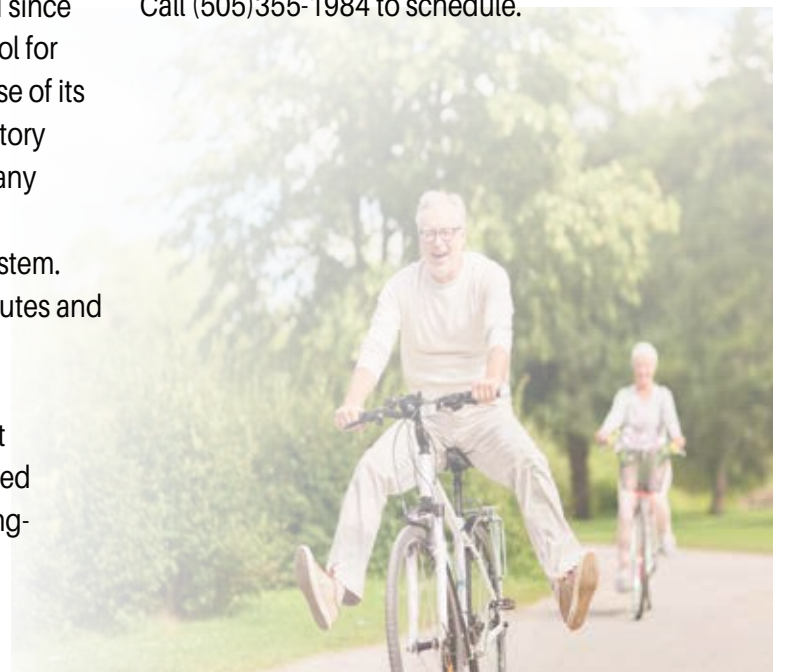
"Our O3 ReBoot Therapy® has all-encompassing and powerful healing capabilities," shares Dr. Brogdon. "Ozone therapy has been used since the 1800's and was actually a popular tool for Doctors during the first world war because of its antibacterial, antiviral, and anti-inflammatory properties. We use it today to inactivate any residual Covid virus, stimulate oxygen metabolism, and activate the immune system. The whole treatment takes about 15 minutes and is completely noninvasive."

As with AAIM's other services, O3 ReBoot Therapy® requires consistent and repeated treatment to achieve measurable and long-lasting results.

**"I'm in my second month of treatment and back to riding my bike and breathing better than before I even had Covid. Everyone [at AAIM] has been amazing! I really feel taken care of every time I walk in the door." says Eric.**

Dr. Andrea Brogdon, AAIM's founder and leading practitioner, has been successfully treating chronic pain and complicated conditions for over two decades. She has pioneered effective protocols to treat seemingly hopeless conditions like peripheral neuropathy, fibromyalgia, and postherpetic neuralgia. When Covid-19 emerged three years ago, she and her team got right to work researching and developing therapies that would effectively address that complex virus. Based on the testimony of patients like Eric, it seems their efforts have been a smashing success.

For more information, visit [AAIM-abq.com](http://AAIM-abq.com). In an effort to do their part in helping people through this difficult time, they are waiving the \$240 new patient consultation fee for Long Covid patients. Call (505)355-1984 to schedule.



**LONG COVID?  
Call (505) 355-1984  
to schedule a consultation!**

**10400 Academy Rd NE Suite 210  
Albuquerque, NM 87111  
[WWW.AAIM-ABQ.COM](http://WWW.AAIM-ABQ.COM)**



## End of Biden Drama Gives State's Democrats a Second Wind

Before U.S. Rep. Gabe Vasquez joined Sen. Martin Heinrich in asking President Joe Biden to give up his run for a second term, Vasquez had distanced himself from Biden.

Last August, Vasquez was conspicuously absent from a Biden rally in New Mexico featuring a constellation of Democrats. Vasquez said he needed to spend time with his father, the *Albuquerque Journal* reported. He might as well have said he needed to wash his hair. It was clear he was already thinking ahead to this year's race and didn't want to give Republicans any ammunition, such as a photograph with Biden.

We now know that Biden's popularity has been cooling for the past year over concerns about his age. Biden bowed to party pressure and stepped down on July 21.

In this political drama, New Mexico was a canary in the coal mine. Biden won New Mexico by double digits in 2020, but when Democratic governors met with Biden early this month, our governor warned him that he could lose the state, according to the *Journal*.

"What I said in that July 3 meeting (was) New Mexico is a bellwether state," she said. "We're very predictive, and our Hispanic voters are very predictive."

She told the White House before the debate that she was worried – a leaked poll put New Mexico in play – but if he was determined to stay in the race, she would support him.

Of the four Democrats running for Congress, Vasquez has the most at stake. The other two representatives have relatively safe bluish districts, and Heinrich is an incumbent. However, Congressional District 2 is a toss-up, despite a Dem-led redistricting that tilted the district a bit in their favor. So Vasquez, a first-term congressman, and his opponent, Republican Yvette Herrell, are running hard.

During better days in 2022, Biden graced a rally in Albuquerque's South Valley, newly added to CD2. It might

have helped Vasquez defeat Herrell, the incumbent, by less than a percentage point in 2022.

Since the debate, pressure was on Biden to step down and on members of Congress to step up and nudge him out of the race. As Republicans needed Vasquez to speak up, NBC asked Democratic candidates in swing districts, including Vasquez, about turmoil at the top of the ticket, Vasquez was one of several Democrats who

said he was focused on his own campaign and that was "to stop MAGA Republicans like Donald Trump and Yvette Herrell who support extreme policies."

"Regardless of who's on the top of the ticket, I'm going to continue to bring home results and deliver for the people in New Mexico."

The Biden campaign blew their man's chance to talk to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. During a Zoom call on July 12, the campaign allowed only two members to pose questions, according to the nonpartisan online news source *NOTUS*. When the president offered to take more questions, Vasquez and another member tried to use the raised-hand feature; organizers lowered the hands.

A week later Heinrich, New Mexico's senior senator, urged Biden to step aside. Vasquez followed a few hours later, saying Biden should step aside to give Democrats the "best opportunity to win in November."

Heinrich, reflecting the party's respect and fondness for the president, called Biden "one of the most accomplished presidents in modern history" and said he led the country through unprecedented challenges.

"However, this moment in our nation's history calls for a focus that is bigger than any one person," Heinrich said. "The return of Donald Trump to the White House poses an existential danger to our democracy. We must defeat him in November, and we need a candidate who can do that."

A Republican strategist previously warned his people that it's not over 'til it's over. Democrats just got a second wind.

### All She Wrote



Sherry Robinson

## Ask a Sex Educator

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### What's the Big Deal with Prostates?

**Question:** I'm a 30 year old heterosexual guy with what I thought was a sex-positive attitude, but when my friend casually mentioned prostate orgasms being way better than 'regular' orgasms, I'm pretty sure I blushed. My friend is also a straight guy (he has a girlfriend) and I don't understand why he would even be into that. When I did an internet search I saw something about prostate orgasms being good for your health and now I'm even more confused. Can you teach me what's the big deal with prostates? Are they some kind of magic health and pleasure button? -Anonymous

**Answer:** I'm excited to answer this question – it's one we get a lot in the store. So many couples and singles experiment with anal play because it can feel delightful for anyone and add excitement. If you have a penis--it's likely you have the bonus of a prostate, often called the male-g-spot or p-spot, because it provides a different orgasm than penile stimulation alone. Many people report using a prostate massager provides new levels of pleasure and can be easier than a manual massage. We carry a variety of prostate massagers in different sizes with different features like vibration or rotation to further enhance pleasure.



Beyond the added pleasure and sensation that can be achieved with prostate massage, it's indeed good for the longevity and health of your prostate. The prostate is a walnut-sized gland that produces most of the fluid in semen. When you ejaculate, the prostate's muscles push this fluid out through your urethra. Keeping your prostate happy and healthy through regular prostate massage can help you avoid issues like prostatitis, pelvic floor disfunction, and erectile dysfunction later on in life.

Many people still inaccurately think guys who like anal stimulation must be gay. This idea is illogical and homophobic. Gay men also like blowjobs, but we don't see hetero men giving those up in fear of seeming gay! Stimulating a body part has nothing to do with sexual orientation. Touching the prostate directly or indirectly feels good and people enjoy things that feel good. Many men enjoy prostate play regardless of sexual orientation.

To learn even more, I recommend our bestselling book *The Ultimate Guide to Prostate Pleasure*. It delves into the joys of prostate play and walks you through each step of exploring safely at your own speed. Anatomy, how to find the prostate (solo or with a partner), tips for anal penetration, positions, toys, pegging, massage, prostate health--it's all there. You are also welcome to come into the store and see the many resources we offer and ask our sex educators on-staff your questions.

Always seek the advice of a qualified healthcare provider for any medical condition.

**How do you get your question answered by a sex educator?**  
**You can email questions to: [askselfserve@gmail.com](mailto:askselfserve@gmail.com)**  
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# Checkpoint Weed Seizures Continue



(Source: Bill Morrow at Wikimedia Commons)

## *Border Patrol nabs \$55,000 in products from business*

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

Despite efforts by New Mexico's governor and lawmakers, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) continues to single out state licensed cannabis operators. The agency for months has been seizing legal marijuana from businesses at interior checkpoints within the state and destroying it without any recompense. It's still unclear why only certain checkpoints in New Mexico seem to be taking part in the campaign while those in other states are leaving licensed operators unmolested, and local businesses want answers.

"It seems like it's a concerted effort, and we're trying to discover where it's coming from," Richard, a manager at Desert Peak Farms, located in Mesilla Park says.

Desert Peak Farms has had products seized by Border Patrol agents at checkpoints twice since May 1, for a combined loss of nearly 75 pounds of product — worth around \$55,000 wholesale.

The products were taken at the Border Patrol checkpoint located north of Las Cruces on I-25. Although it's been widely argued they are unconstitutional, CBP has been given jurisdiction to operate within 100 miles of the U.S. border and has set up permanent interior border checkpoints. There are at least

six of these checkpoints located within the state of New Mexico.

Richard says the first incident in May was initiated when drug-sniffing dogs tagged a vehicle belonging to a Desert Peak Farms employee that was transporting product. The agents seized about 23 pounds of products and 350 pre-rolls. They also held the employee for at least three to four hours before releasing him without arrest.

The second incident happened July 8, Richard says. Border Patrol agents once again stopped the same employee and seized 50 pounds of flower and 1,900 pre-rolls.

Richard says the loss of revenue hurts the company and the seizures are placing undue stress on the business.

This highlights an issue that advocates have been bumping up against for years. It appears the Border Patrol does not consistently follow the same procedures in different parts of the country and there is a lack of cohesive policy between different regions.

According to a 2022 report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office, Border Patrol has not established clear roles and responsibilities for its management office. The agency established a Checkpoint Program Management Office (CPMO) in 2013 to oversee checkpoint operations, but

investigators found the agency did not give the CPMO clear roles and responsibilities, resulting in policy and enforcement inconsistencies at various checkpoints. The agency also failed to adequately staff the CPMO and wasn't properly training new hires.

The report also found that 91% of all drug seizures at interior checkpoints involved U.S. citizens only, which seems to counter the agency's purported mission to protect the country's borders and "enhance the nation's economic prosperity," as stated on its official website.

Despite the report's recommendations to increase oversight and ensure consistency in reporting and policy (which were supported by the Department of Homeland Security, which oversees CBP), Border Patrol sectors seem to still be operating independently under different orders.

In May, New Mexico Cannabis Control Division (CCD) Director Todd Stevens told *The Paper* that he spoke to regulators in other border states that have legalized cannabis and found their marijuana businesses aren't having trouble with checkpoints like the ones in New Mexico.

This points to the possibility that there is some sort of rogue element operating in the Border Patrol's El Paso Sector, which

oversees the checkpoints in New Mexico. And, according to Richard, there's even inconsistencies to be found within the sector. The first time agents confiscated Desert Peak Farms products, the employee reported they were treated rudely. But when Richard went to the checkpoint to find out what was happening, the agents he encountered were apologetic and seemed empathetic to his plight, although they were unable to help him.

"Two of them sat there and chatted with me for 15 or 20 minutes, almost in a conciliatory way. They weren't mean or cruel or arrogant or obnoxious at all."

Notably, he says that the agents told him that they were acting on orders from higher up.

"They said, 'We've been instructed to do this, and we got to do it,'" Richard says.

He questions who is doing the instructing.

"Where's the decision being made to instruct these border patrol agents to do what they're doing?" he asks. "Somebody had to tell them to do that, because previously they weren't doing it. We were just going through those checkpoints, smiling and waving."

Richard says the company has reached out to the CCD and the Governor's Office about the seizures. He says authorities were supportive but unable to do anything, since the CBP is a federal agency with higher authority.

"If the Border Patrol continues stealing product from operators, they will end up driving people back to the unregulated black market," Matt Kennicott, CEO and co-founder of cannabis industry association The Plug says. "Consumer safety is being ignored by federal agents, which is part of the reason we've called on our congressional delegation to help with this problem."

In June, Rep. Gabe Vasquez (D-NM) filed a federal amendment to the fiscal year 2025 DHS appropriations bill that would have prohibited Border Patrol from using federal funds to seize marijuana from state-licensed operators, but the amendment was blocked by the House Rules Committee.

Richard says that Desert Peak Farms isn't expecting to ever get their lost revenue back.

"Restitution from the federal government? That sounds like a good George Carlin routine," he says.





# Blunts.

## cannabis news shorts



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

## Company Faces \$20 Million Lawsuit Following Recall

By Josh Lee, The Paper.

A Missouri marijuana company embroiled in controversy after it was forced to recall more than 60,000 products last year is now facing an \$18 million lawsuit over unpaid invoices.

According to the *Missouri Independent*, cannabis manufacturer Delta Extraction was forced to make the recall last year after it was revealed the company had allegedly been mixing unregulated hemp-based THC oil into its cannabis oil without informing consumers. The state revoked the company's manufacturing license following the revelation.

Now Delta Extraction is facing a lawsuit from SND Equipment Leasing, the company that was contracted to create the questionable material, for its production and for the loss of equipment during state raids.

According to SND, it was contracted to do a job, and it delivered. The company says it was Delta Extraction's responsibility to make sure the work was within compliance with state regulations.

The company is asking for more than \$13 million to cover product production and an additional \$5 million in loss of revenue, because the state confiscated its extraction equipment for five months.

### California Targets Illicit Bud

California authorities say they seized thousands of pounds of illicit cannabis while raiding

illegal pot operations.

According to a recent news release from California Gov. Gavin Newsom, state law enforcement conducted investigations looking for illicit cannabis grows located near state parks and found three grow sites at Saddleback Butte State Park and two sites at Colonel Allensworth State Park. According to authorities, officers found and destroyed a combined 5,256 illegal pot plants, weighing 13,377 pounds. Officers found 14 guns at the sites, including two assault weapons and three illegal ghost guns (untraceable weapons that are privately manufactured).

Newsom said the use of illegal pesticides can damage the ecosystems of state parks, which are valued natural and cultural resources and that he has directed his Unified Cannabis Enforcement Taskforce to target criminal cannabis enterprises. Newsom also said illegal marijuana grows exploit vulnerable workers.

The taskforce has reportedly seized over \$120 million in illegal cannabis products, including nearly 73,300 pounds of unlicensed cannabis.

### Pennsylvania Lawmakers Flub Bill, Kill Tax Relief

While drafting its budget bill, Pennsylvania lawmakers forgot to include medical cannabis dispensaries in a section that grants tax relief for the marijuana industry. Now that the bill has been signed into law, those companies will not be able to take state tax deductions.

The cannabis section of the bill allows marijuana producers and manufacturers



(Source: Draconis44 at Wikimedia Commons)

to take state deductions equal to the amount that the federal government would allow if not for an Internal Revenue Service code that prohibits anyone from taking tax deductions for a business that traffics controlled substances.

According to Marijuana Moment, lawmakers forgot to

include dispensaries in the bill, and now it's uncertain if they will be able to fix the oversight without legislative action. Lawmakers are currently in talks with the state's Legislative Reference Bureau to see what can be done.



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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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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

Week of July 24

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**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Aries singer-songwriter Lady Gaga has written many songs, both for herself and other artists. She has famously declared that some of her most successful songs took her just 10 minutes to compose. They include “Just Dance,” “Poker Face,” and “Born This Way.” According to my interpretation of the astrological omens, you could be rising to Lady Gaga levels of creativity in your own sphere during the coming weeks. And I won’t be surprised if your imaginative innovations flow with expeditious clarity, like Gaga at her most efficient.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** During the winter, some animals hibernate. They enter a state of dormancy, slowing their metabolism, breathing, and heart rate. Other animals enter a similar state during the summer, conserving energy when the weather is hot and dry. It’s called estivation. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, many of you Tauruses would benefit from a modified version of estivation in the next couple of weeks. You’re in prime time to recharge your energy through deep relaxation and rest.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** The English word “amphibian” is derived from the Greek term amphibios, which means “living a double life.” The original meaning of the English word was “combining two qualities; having two modes of life,” though eventually it came to be used primarily to describe animals that function well on both land and in water. You Geminis are of course the most amphibious of all the astrological tribes. You can feel at home in a variety of situations. This may sometimes stir up confusion, but I see it as one of your greatest potential strengths. In the coming weeks, I hope you enjoy it to the maximum. It should serve you well. Wield it to take advantage of the sweet perks of versatility.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** I dreamed that a young elephant appeared on the back deck of my house and stuck its trunk through the open sliding glass door. I got up from my chair and gently pushed the animal away, then closed the door. But after I woke up, I was sorry I had done that in my dream. What was I afraid of? The elephant posed no danger—and may have been a good omen. In some cultures, elephants in dreams and visions are symbols of good luck, vitality, long life, and the removal of obstacles. So here’s what I did. I dropped into a deep meditative state and reimagined the dream. This time, I welcomed the creature into my home. I gave her the name Beatrice. We wrestled playfully and had fun playing with a red rubber ball. Amazingly, later that day, a certain obstacle in my actual waking life magically disappeared. The moral of the story, my fellow Cancerian: Welcome the elephant.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Some bamboo species grow very quickly—as much as 36 inches per day. I suspect your capacity to burgeon and blossom will display a similar vigor in the coming weeks. You may be surprised at how dramatic your development is. I’m hoping, of course, that you will be acutely focused on channeling your fertility in positive ways. Don’t feed an urge to recklessly gamble, for instance. Don’t pursue connections with influences that are no damn good for you. Instead, decide right now what areas of your life you want to be the beneficiaries of your growth spurt. Choose the beauty and power you will encourage to ripen.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** For months, we heard and saw crows pecking on the roof of our rental house. Why? Were they grubbing for food? It was mildly annoying, but seemingly no big deal. Then one night, their small, regular acts of mayhem climaxed in an unexpected event. Rain began to fall around 8 pm. It was constant, though not heavy. At 9, the ceilings in five rooms began to leak. By 10:30, our house was flooded. We managed to rescue most of our precious items, but the house was damaged. We had to find a new place to live. I don’t

expect anything nearly this drastic to befall you, dear Virgo. But I do encourage you to check to see if any small problem is gradually growing bigger. Now is a favorable time to intervene and forestall an unfavorable development.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Two Scottish veterinarians researched the health of rhesus monkeys that are compelled by human handlers to dance on the streets of Islamabad, Pakistan. When I first learned about this, my response was, “Wow! Don’t those doctors have anything better to do? That is the most obscure research I have ever heard of.” But later, I decided I admired the doctors because they were motivated primarily by compassion. They found the monkeys were under severe stress, and they publicized the fact as a public service. Their work will ultimately lead to better treatment of the monkeys. In accordance with astrological omens, Libra, I advise you to seek out comparable ways to express altruism in the coming weeks. By engaging in noble and idealistic acts, you will attract good fortune into your sphere both for yourself and others.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Do you place any limits on how deep and expansive you allow your yearnings to be? Are you ever worried that maybe you desire too much and are at risk of asking for too much? If you answered yes to those questions, Scorpio, I will give you a temporary license to rebel against your wariness. In accordance with astrological rhythms, I authorize you to experiment with feeling the biggest, strongest, wildest longings you have ever felt. Please note that I am not advising you to immediately go out and actually express those longings to the hilt. For now, I’d like you to simply have the experience of entertaining their full intensity. This will be a healing experience.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You will never guess the identity of the strongest animal on the planet. It’s not the gorilla, tiger, or elephant. It’s the dung beetle, which can lug loads that weigh 1,141 times as much as it does. The equivalent for you would be to pull six double-decker buses crammed with people. I’m happy to inform you that although you won’t be able to accomplish that feat in the coming weeks, your emotional and spiritual strength will be formidable. You may be surprised at how robust and mighty you are. What do you plan to do with all that power?

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** By age 35, you have already shed over 50 pounds of skin. The flesh that covers you is in a constant state of renewal. In the coming weeks, I expect your rate of regeneration to be even higher than usual—not only in regard to your skin, but everything else in your life, as well. Here’s a proviso: Renewal and regeneration are always preceded by withering or dwindling. To enjoy the thrill of revitalization, you must allow the loss of what was once vital but is no longer.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Among people who go hiking a lot, “death march” is a term that refers to a long trudge through boring scenery in bad weather. Let’s use this as a metaphor for your life. I believe you have recently finished your own metaphorical version of a “death march.” Any minute now, you will begin a far more enjoyable series of experiences. Get ready for an entertaining meander through interesting terrains in fine weather. Be alert for unpredictable encounters with inspiration and education.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Alex Larenty gives massages to lions at the Lion Park near Johannesburg, South Africa. They especially love foot rubs. Even Jamu, king of the local beasts, rolls onto his back so Larenty can get a good angle while caressing and kneading his paws. I bring this to your attention, Pisces, because it’s a good metaphor for the unique power you will have in the coming days: a knack for dealing successfully with wild influences and elemental powers through the magic of kindness, affection, and service.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Leaves for lunch?

6 Exam format

10 Mixed in with

14 Pointless

15 Go to the polls

16 Tomato type

17 Hopeless undertakings

19 Lake vessel

20 Furtively

21 Cleaning aid

23 Make smooth

24 College offerings

25 Raspy-voiced

28 Baby's headwear

29 Not yet known, for short

30 Hollywood's Hawke

32 Small pies

35 Quick note

37 Lingerie fabric

39 Tackle box item

40 Full of baloney

42 Bishop's assistant

44 Stage signal

45 Nike rival

47 Reached the top of one's game

49 Acting fitfully

51 Enthralled

52 Manet or Monet, e.g.

53 Pursue a lead

57 Cancel

58 Light up

60 Slender reed

61 Well-groomed

62 Jewelry weight

63 Tear up

64 Marvin of Motown

65 Primary

11 1987 movie starring Cher

12 Bitmap, for one

13 Goes out with

18 Stocks and such

22 Fourth down option

24 Like a witch's hat

25 Webmaster's code

26 Outdated wedding vow word

27 Great respect

28 Hand-dyed fabric

31 Mayhem

33 Test choice

34 Future flower

36 Biased

38 Flamethrower fuel

41 Catches on

43 Carbon copy

46 Like a winter wind

48 Keyless, as music

49 Enjoy deeply

50 Dig deeper

51 Way to go

53 Whip

54 "Star Trek" speed

55 Bryce Canyon locale

56 Anti-fur org.

59 Grazing spot

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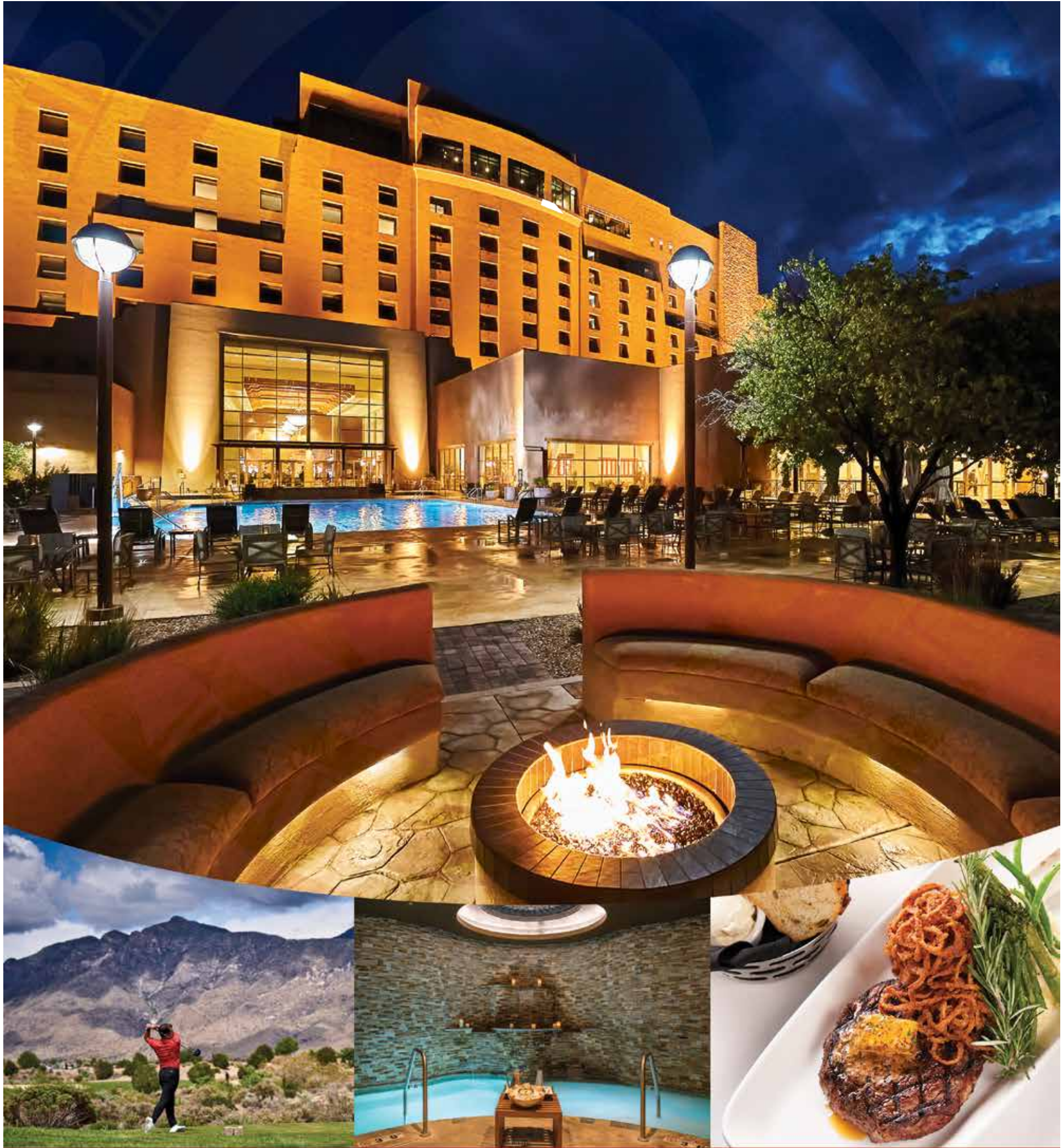
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