

'ROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE



**New Mexico
STATE EMPLOYEES' NEWSPAPER**

Volume 34, Issue Number 5
May 2 to June 12, 2022

SPOTLIGHT On New Mexico Leadership

**Regulation & Licensing Department,
pg 16**

**Economic
Relief,
pg 5**



**Justice C. Shannon
Bacon becomes
Chief Justice, pg 7**



**Where is Dave?
pg 29**



**Santa Fe Teacher
Wins National Award
pg 11**

**RESTAURANT
COUPONS
INSIDE!**



www.facebook.com/roundtheroundhouse



**Happy Mother's Day!
May 8th**

**Santa Fe
514 W Cordova
In Trader Joe's shopping center
(505) 974-8801**



**Albuquerque
5317 Menaul Blvd NE
(505) 881-6888**

WUN

n o o d l e b a r

Rice Bowls · Ramen · Dumplings · Bao

DOORDASH

**DASHING
DELIVERY**

**We hand-pull all of our noodles fresh to each order
so you are guaranteed to have the freshest dishes ever!
Try our delicious ramen, bao, or classic Asian noodle dishes.**



NOW OPEN!

CHRISTUS ST. VINCENT AND MAYO CLINIC

Expert Care Right Here at Home

At CHRISTUS St. Vincent, the providers you know and trust have direct access to Mayo Clinic's medical knowledge and expertise. This means, as a CHRISTUS St. Vincent patient, your expert providers can request a second opinion from Mayo Clinic specialists on your behalf and access Mayo Clinic's research, diagnostics and treatment resources to address your unique medical needs.

This clinical collaboration allows you and your loved ones to get the comprehensive and compassionate care you need close to home, at no additional cost.

CHRISTUS St. Vincent and Mayo Clinic Working Together. Working for you.

We accept most major insurance plans, including Blue Cross Blue Shield, Presbyterian Health Plan, Aetna, Cigna, CHRISTUS Health Plan, Humana, TRICARE and United Healthcare. Please consult with your health plan.

CHRISTUS St. Vincent

455 St. Michael's Dr.
Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 913-3361 • www.stvin.org



'ROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE

New Mexico STATE EMPLOYEES' NEWSPAPER

A monthly publication for and about New Mexico's State Employees



'ROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE
505.988.1135
rtroundhouse@gmail.com
320 Paseo de Peralta, Suite E
Santa Fe, NM 87501
www.roundtheroundhouse.com

Printed in cooperation with the State of New Mexico
 Printed at The Santa Fe New Mexican.
 Copyright 2014 Big Sky Creative, Inc.
 All rights reserved. Material may not be reproduced without permission.

CAROL HETZLER
 Publisher

In loving Memory
JOHN HETZLER
 Former President & Publisher

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
 Manon Arnett, Tristanna Bickford,
 Ami Evans, Carolyn Fittipaldi,
 Kristie Garcia, Camelina Hart,
 Steven Hicks, Martha Kunkel,
 Bruce Krasnow, H.L. Lovato, Jeff Levine,
 Karyn Lujan, Jodi McGinnis Porter,
 Marisa Maez, Matthew Maez,
 Nick Mandel, Barry Massey, S
 Stephanie Montoya, Renee Narvaiz,
 Judy Robinson, Patrick Rodriguez,
 Nora Sackett, Robert Torrez,
 James Walton and
 Beth Wojahn

'Round the Roundhouse is a local, family owned company that publishes a monthly newspaper for and about State and other government employees in New Mexico. We strive to be the most relevant source of information. Opinions expressed by some contributors do not necessarily reflect those of 'Round the Roundhouse. Send your stories and photos to us at the address above or submit to your PIO for their consideration in future issues. Enjoy!



The next issue is June 13, 2022
Deadline is June 3, 2022



Mail Subscriptions are available for \$25

The Education Plan® Launches New Website, New Tools to Help Plan for Education Savings

By Carolyn Fittipaldi

The Education Plan®—New Mexico's 529 Education Savings Program—has launched a new website with enhanced tools and resources to help parents, grandparents and individuals plan and save for future education.



"We hold true to the belief that 529 plans are for everyone, and we are working to simplify the process of saving for future education," said Natalie Cordova, Executive Director of The Education Plan®. "Our new website assists anyone looking to save for education to learn more about the process, view their options and determine which approach is right for them."

The resource-rich site features analysis of education costs, a glossary that defines common terms related to savings plans, a breakdown of tax benefits, a step-by-step process to set up account gifting, an overview of qualified expenses, and an interactive map to determine the 529 savings opportunities in each state, among other valuable content and tools.

With a help desk section to guide users through the process and a 529 learning center, the new website provides a comprehensive and user-friendly interface to answer commonly asked questions and provide an easy-to-understand overview of 529 plans and their benefits.

"Through our robust and interactive site, anyone interested in saving for the future can experience a guided walk through the process," added Cordova. "And, as always, our team is on-hand to answer any questions current and future savers may have. Our goal is to make the process of saving for education as easy, accessible and stress-free as possible."

A 529 education savings plan is a tax-advantaged account designed to help pay for future education expenses. Accounts with The Education Plan® can be opened for as little as \$1 and funds can be used for qualified expenses at any college, university, trade or vocational school in the nation. Funds saved in a 529 plan can be used to pay for tuition and a variety of qualified education expenses, such as room and board, books, computers and software.

For more information or to view the new site, visit www.TheEducation-Plan.com.



Financing Available*

*On Approved Credit

HSUN | **NOW** in stock at
Santa Fe Motor Sports

SANTA FE MOTOR SPORTS

2594 Camino Entrada, Santa Fe
 505.438.1888 • 877.479.4833
www.SantaFeMotorSports.com
It's Where the FUN Begins!

NMDVR Offering "Money Smart" Training For Small Business

By Jeff Levine



The New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (NMDVR) began offering an online Money Smart for Small Business course on Wednesday, April 27. The free sessions are held every Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time. NMDVR Program Manager Karen Wiley and Benefits Advisor Rebecca Medina are teaching the 13-part course, which was developed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Disability Institute, and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

In recent years, NMDVR has been working with more participants who are self-employed in the gig economy. According to Wiley, they often don't know the ins-and-outs of self-employment—such as needing to pay quarterly taxes—making now a good time to begin presenting this curriculum.

“The goal is to help people with disabilities work towards supporting themselves through self-employment, and to provide them with basic financial literacy when running a business,” says Wiley. “We want people to obtain the skills they need to be successful.”

Money Smart for Small Business introduces both aspiring entrepreneurs and current small business owners to skills needed to start and manage a business. The curriculum includes modules about risk management, financial management, record keeping, insurance, tax planning, and more.

The course is currently open to any participant in an NMDVR program. Those interested can register at www.surveymonkey.com/r/R8QSKRJ.

The agency plans to present the modules on a rolling basis, so students who miss a topic of interest to them will be able to virtually attend the class 13 weeks later. Enrollees can join any or all of the 13 classes and can jump into the cycle of classes at any time.

NMDOT D1 Employees of the Month April 2022

By Ami Evans



Employee of the Month-Preston Hawkins 41-48

Preston is the certified welder, any time it comes to fabricating or welding task, he is willing to step outside his work environment to address any task given. When the Box Blade needed to be revamped, Preston stepped up and redesigned the V part of box

blade that distributes the material to the sides. Making these changes allowed our box blade to work more efficiently and evenly.

Preston is the kind of employee that is always smiling and willing to help fellow coworkers, the traveling public, and is known for being courteous when dealing with public.

Supervisor of the Month-Eddie Misquez, Stores

Eddie has kept Stores running smoothly and efficiently. From hiring summer help to new employees, he has trained them to handle all needs even in his absence, all while keeping the Department at a zero discrepancy for accountability with stores items and the General Office.

Eddie's continued assistance in helping with the absence of a trainer shows what a team player he is, thank you for all that you do and continuing to be an asset to the Department.

Crew of the Month-Anthony Construction 41-18



The Anthony Construction team has had several large and complicated projects. The current project on I10 at NM404 has had a few issues and the traffic volumes are some of the biggest in the District. However, they continue to professionally and efficiently manage the project while dealing with the

traffic. The crew is always willing to provide assistance, answer or give explanations, and they are very knowledgeable and friendly. This team works well together and the relationship they have with their contractors and staff is great. You all continue to do what it takes, working overtime or on weekends or whenever needed to ensure the job gets done rain or shine. This team embraces challenges as opportunities and has a positive attitude.

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
 CARPET RE-STRETCHING
 TILE & GROUT CLEANING
 STONE POLISHING
 EMERGENCY WATER DAMAGE
 DRY-OUT
 COVID-19 CDC COMPLIANT



505-473-3534

CARPETWORKSNM.COM

INFO@CARPETWORKSNM.COM

24 HR. FAST EMERGENCY RESPONSE
 FREE ESTIMATES!

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED AND SERVING
 SANTA FE OVER 25 YEARS.

ACUPUNCTURE

for your health concerns

DR. SUZANNE OLIVA D.O.M.

PRACTICING IN SANTA FE & ESPAÑOLA FOR 28 YEARS

- ACUPUNCTURE
- MASSAGE
- HERBS
- HOMEOPATHICS

2905 RODEO PARK DRIVE EAST
 BLDG 3, SANTA FE

205 LOS ALAMOS HIGHWAY
 SUITE C, ESPAÑOLA



505-699-8116

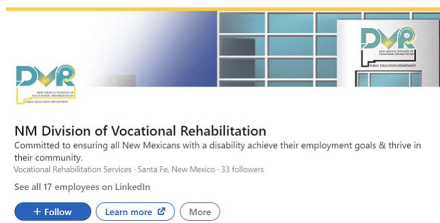
Most Insurance Accepted

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is (Back) on Social Media

By Jeff Levine

Participants and prospective participants in the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (NMDVR) can now go to Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn to get the latest news about the agency's programs, job opportunities, and other vocational rehab information. The agency has relaunched its social media presence.

"It's important to be able to reach diverse audiences where they are," NMDVR Director Casey Stone-Romero says. "People of all ages are getting their information from one or more social media channels. We want them to know what's happening at NMDVR and how it relates to them."



The agency has been on social media in the past, but the accounts have not been active in recent years.

To follow NMDVR, visit NM Division of Vocational Rehabilitation on LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/nmvocrehab/>), New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/NMVocRehab>), and @NMVocRehab on Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/nmvocrehab/>).

Stone-Romero notes that NMDVR's social media platforms enhance the existing channels of communication already in existence and reminds would-be users of agency services that they should still call or visit their nearest office for individualized, personal assistance. There are two dozen NMDVR offices throughout the state.

Governor Delivers Economic Relief to New Mexicans Over 1.1 million New Mexicans to receive up to \$1,500

By Nora Sackett



Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham signed special session **House Bill 2** on April 8th delivering hundreds of millions of dollars in household support to New Mexicans after calling the Legislature into special session to bring economic relief to New Mexicans amid rising prices.

"Today I am glad to enact legislation easing the burden of high national prices, putting money in New Mexicans' pockets and protecting their paychecks," said Gov. Lujan Grisham. "I thank the Legislature for acting quickly and answering my call to deliver economic relief to New Mexicans, building on the half a billion dollars in tax relief that we enacted earlier this year to deliver up to \$1,500 in household relief to over a million New Mexicans."

Totaling \$698 million, the enacted economic relief measure will automatically send \$500 payments to single tax filers and \$1,000 to joint filers. The funds will be distributed in two equal parts in June and August. Together with the rebate checks that will be distributed in July as a result of additional legislation enacted by Gov. Lujan Grisham last month, over 1.1 million New Mexicans will receive up to \$1,500 in household relief to help offset the high price of gas, groceries and goods, delivering just over \$1 billion back to New Mexico taxpayers.

The legislation also allocates \$20 million to provide economic relief payments to New Mexicans who do not file taxes, including seniors on fixed incomes and lower income families.

The governor also signed special session **Senate Bill 1** on April 8th allocating \$50 million to community projects across the state in a supplemental "junior" spending bill after working with the Legislature to revise the proposal to ensure transparency and fiscal responsibility.

1% CASH BACK UP TO \$500!*

PLUS NO PAYMENTS FOR 60 DAYS*



APPLY FOR A GCU AUTO LOAN TODAY

(505) 982-8942
GuadalupeCU.org



Subject to eligibility and credit approval, see a loan officer for details. Cash incentive will be 1% of the loan proceeds up to a maximum of \$500 per auto loan with refinanced balances of at least \$10,000 or more, and will be deposited into the savings account at closing. Member is responsible for all taxes related to bonus payments. Loan must be a purchase or transferred from another financial institution. First payment not due for 60 days from the loan closing. With no payment for 60 days, your interest will accrue from the date of the contract. The terms of this offer may change or come to an end without prior notice. Loan promotion valid through June 30, 2022. GCU is an equal opportunity lender.

STOVE AND FIREPLACE INSERT 2021 CLEARANCE SALE!

CHOOSE FROM • GAS • WOOD • PELLET

Lopi
 Blaze King
 ENVIRO
 KOZY HEAT FIREPLACES

The hearth and stove professionals at Dreamstyle Remodeling are eager to help you choose the stove or fireplace insert that is just right for your needs and budget.

CLEARANCE SALE ENDS JUNE 12TH WHILE INVENTORY LASTS

\$650 OFF
SELECT MODEL STOVES/INSERTS WITH

12 MONTHS
NO INTEREST, NO PAYMENTS OR LOW MONTHLY PAYMENTS*

26% FEDERAL TAX CREDIT
ON QUALIFYING STOVES/INSERTS

WE DELIVER STATEWIDE

dreamstyle
REMODELING

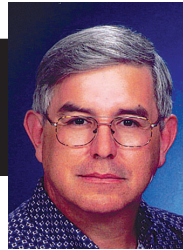
OUR SHOWROOM IN SANTA FE
199 Paseo De Peralta
DeVargas Center (east end) 982-4210

IN ALBUQUERQUE
1460 N Renaissance Blvd NE 302-3122

*Finance charges will be waived if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months, OAC. Not valid with other offers. See representative for details.

VOICES FROM THE PAST

By Robert J. Tórréz
Former State Historian
© 2014



Let There Be Light!

Most of us have lived our lives without realizing how dark it can be at night unless we are out in the woods on a moonless night, the campfire has died out and the batteries in your flashlight or lantern are dead. It causes us to think about how people illuminated their homes *mas antes* especially since parts of rural New Mexico did not have electricity until the 1950s. That was certainly true even during my own lifetime and I am certain there are a great number of our senior readers who personally recall making do with candlelight and oil lamps. The arrival of other means of illuminating the darkness was certainly significant when gas lighting finally arrived in Santa Fe in 1880.

At least two companies – the Santa Fe Gaslight and Coke Manufacturing Company and The Santa Fe Gas Company – were incorporated in 1879 and 1880 for the purpose of “the manufacture of illuminating gas” and “lighting the town of Santa Fe.” Prominent individuals such as the Spiegelbergs, Seligman, Ortiz y Pino, William Breeden and the Staabs were listed among the incorporators of these companies. It may have been these men that established what is identified as the “Gas Works” in the 1882 “Bird’s Eye View” of Santa Fe, located at the north edge of the city, behind the Mason’s cemetery (see illustration).

Local newspapers such as The Daily New Mexican closely followed the progress of the “gas works,” reporting that on November 23, 1880, the furnaces were fired up for the first time at 11:15 A. M. sharp. The flame that was produced by the gas works was enough to assure the large crowd “that there was going to be gas and that pretty soon.”

The December 7, 1880 Daily New Mexican reported that on the previous Sunday night, December 5, the first gas lights “gleamed from several openings at different points in the gas mains. The paper explained that the gas was “very imperfect” due to great amounts of air in the lines, creating a blue flame, but as the night wore on, air in the lines dissipated and the light was brighter and improving as it was allowed to burn. By Monday night the store of Ilfeld & Company and several others were brightly lit with gas. Three days later, the paper reported that “Quite a large number of stores and business houses are using the gas light regularly” with a few stores having minor issues with the meters, creating a “a somewhat uncertain light” but at most locations “the gas burns as steadily and as brightly as possible”



Gas Works, 1882. Library of Congress

and business owners were delighted with the results.

On December 10 the Daily New Mexican headline read “The Town Ablaze With Light” and indicated that Mr. Irland, a company official, and some reporters visited most of the business owners to see firsthand how “they liked it.” Morehead’s European House had forty burners going full blast and

the dining room and saloon were “brilliantly lighted.” Both stores of Z. Stabb and Broth-

ers were “all ablaze with light, the office as well lighted and everybody well pleased.” A storeroom at the back of the clothing department had six burners but only three were burning, the light from which was found to be “entirely sufficient.”

At the Alhambra a dozen burners in the various rooms were burning brightly and the bar was beautifully lighted. Subsequent visits to Seligman & Brothers, Irvine & McKenzie, Ilfeld & Company, and the Fischer & Company drugstore found proprietors and clerks were

all pleased. In all, the newspaper reported they found no complaints and declared the gas works “working like a charm.”

The initial success of the gas works installations prompted the Santa Fe County Commission to begin considering the installation of street lamps. The papers noted such a project was met with a general public approval and that it would not only be a “great convenience” but assist the city police force in their work. I have not looked to see at what point streetlights were installed, how long the gas works functioned or the how the gas was produced – one can wonder if the furnaces mentioned were fired by coal or coal coke, and if so, from where it was obtained and the technology that produced a combustible and safely delivered gas.

It might also be noted that Santa Fe’s businessmen and entrepreneurs were already looking ahead. In September 1883 Henry M. Atkinson, James Longwell, and Robert Longwell incorporated “The Santa Fe Electric Light and Power Company.” Whether this was the company that actually brought electricity to the city, it would not be long before this next technological advancement began providing light to the businesses, homes, and streets of Santa Fe.

Copyright 2022, Robert J. Tórréz

Audiology Associates™



HEARING AIDS ARE COVERED

FOR MOST NM STATE EMPLOYEES WITH PRESBYTERIAN AND BCBS INSURANCE

“WE LISTEN CLOSELY WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR HEARING”



ROMEROHEARING.COM
505-842-5810

460 ST. MICHAEL'S DR.
SUITE 901
SANTA FE, NM 87505

You can also visit our Albuquerque Location

8300 CARMEL AVE NE
SUITE 104
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87122

JAG

JARAMILLO ACCOUNTING GROUP
CREATING CLARITY FROM COMPLEXITY
AUDIT, TAX, FRAUD, CONSULTING
www.JAG.CPA

AUDIT READY???

JAG can either help you be ready for audit or complete your audit.

We have over 25 years of experience in NM governmental audit and consulting.

Governor Celebrates Earth Day 2022

By Nora Sackett

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham issued the following statement on Earth Day 2022 celebrating the many actions New Mexico has taken under her leadership to combat climate change, protect the environment, and further climate resiliency initiatives:



"Every year we are one step closer to reaching our climate goals – and every year those goals are more and more important, which is underscored by the increasingly severe wildfires we're seeing in New Mexico," said Gov. Lujan Grisham. "While we celebrate our progress today, we know that we must continue to be vigilant in our pursuit of further climate action."

The Lujan Grisham administration, through the work of the New Mexico Climate Change Task Force, has taken more action to combat climate change than any other administration in state history, committing to the goals of the Paris Agreement in the governor's first month in office and acting to reach those goals by:

Implementing nationally leading methane rules that will result in hundreds of millions of pounds of reductions in methane and harmful air pollutants from the oil and gas industry:

- Last week, the state adopted a second oil and gas rule that will eliminate the emission of harmful air pollutants by 260 million pounds annually and over 850 million pounds of methane emissions annually. The rule will go into effect this summer.
- In May of 2021, the state implemented natural gas waste rules that require 98% gas capture from oil and gas production and midstream operations by the end of 2026
- Enacting the landmark Energy Transition Act, requiring state energy utilities to produce 100% clean electricity by 2045
- Enforcing current policies that will reduce emissions by 30.9 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2030
- Additional planned policies will further reduce emissions by an additional 17.3 metric tons of carbon dioxide by 2030
- Ensuring a just transition that provides for sustainable livelihoods for those reliant on the fossil fuel economy in the shift to more sustainable systems and practices
- Bringing a total of 1,395 megawatts of renewable power online between 2019 and 2021, more than double the growth in renewable generation in the two years prior
- Reimplementing the Solar Market Development Tax Credit in 2020, which enabled over 2,300 solar projects to be installed in its first year of implementation, an annual energy cost savings of \$1,400 per customer
- Expanding the state's electric transportation framework to more easily allow for the construction of electric vehicle charging stations and the expansion of electric transportation in New Mexico
- Committing to conserve and protect at least 30% of state lands and waters by 2030

The Lujan Grisham administration will continue to pursue every available avenue to drive down emissions and prepare for the effects of climate change already being felt.

Later this year, the state's Environmental Improvement Board will consider the adoption of clean car rules, significantly decreasing emissions from the state's second-largest greenhouse gas emitting industry.

Justice C. Shannon Bacon becomes Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court

By Barry Massey

Justice C. Shannon Bacon was sworn on April 13th as Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court.

She was elected to the position by her colleagues on the five-member court and will serve a term expiring in April 2024. She succeeds Justice Michael Vigil, who had served as Chief Justice since 2020.

"It is a tremendous honor to lead the Judiciary," said Chief Justice Bacon. "I look forward to working with the Judiciary, State Bar, and our justice partners to advance justice for all."



Justice C. Shannon Bacon takes the oath of office as Chief Justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court. Chief Justice Michael Vigil administered the oath. Standing next to Chief Justice Bacon are her nephews, Tristan Bacon (L) and R.J. Bacon (R). Photos courtesy of the New Mexico Supreme Court and Administrative Office of the Courts



Chief Justice C. Shannon Bacon

The Chief Justice performs both court and administrative duties. In addition to presiding over Supreme Court hearings and conferences, the Chief Justice serves as the administrative authority over personnel, budgets and general operations of all state courts and acts as an advocate for the Judiciary on legislative, budget and other matters.

Chief Justice Bacon was appointed to the Supreme Court in 2019, and won election in 2020. Before joining the state's highest court, she served as a judge on the Second Judicial District Court for nearly nine years and was the presiding civil judge.

In addition to her new responsibilities on the Court, Chief Justice Bacon leads the Judiciary's efforts regarding access to justice, guardianship and conservatorship reform, eviction and foreclosure programs, and equity and justice reform.

The new Chief Justice took the oath of office during a ceremony in the Supreme Court's courtroom in Santa Fe, which was live streamed for judges and court employees across the state.

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham Appoints Gallup-based business leader to Tourism Commission

By James Walton

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham appointed local Gallup businessman, entrepreneur, and community leader Bill Lee to the New Mexico Tourism Commission to fill the 7-person planning commission.



Lee currently serves as President and CEO for The Gallup McKinley County Chamber of Commerce and owner and operator of X-Treme-Lee Fun Balloon Adventures.

“Bill’s experience and passion for small businesses, the ballooning community, and all things New Mexico is a much-welcomed addition to the Tourism Commission. We are fortunate for the economic and tourism development perspective he will bring to the commission,” Cabinet Secretary Jen Paul Schroer said.

Lee previously served as Chair of the New Mexico Chamber Executives Association and was recently re-elected to the Board of Directors. Lee also served as the former President of the Tourism Association of New Mexico before the organization was restructured into the New Mexico Hospitality Association and served on the New Mexico State Fair Commission from 2014–2018.

Are You Within 10 Years of Retirement? It's Closer Than You Think

By Karyn Lujan

You have worked hard throughout your lifetime. As you begin to think about retirement, we have a few ideas to make sure that what you’ve earned while working continues to work for you. Maximize your efforts now by focusing on the details that will help you ensure a more secure retirement. It may sound basic, but these ideas can be key to the good life and a successful retirement.

Create a clearly defined financial plan.

It’s never too late to prepare. Start by creating a financial plan that includes all of your future sources of income, including Social Security, and how you will maximize them in retirement. Be sure to consider life insurance, long-term care coverage and estate planning. It is also a good idea to update your Will and healthcare proxies.

Max out your contributions if you can.

Get retirement ready by making the most out of what you can save with automatic contributions through payroll deduction. Increasing your contributions not only reduces your taxable income but also takes advantage of increased contribution limits based on your age. Once you’re age 50 or older, you can use the catch-up contribution options to boost your retirement savings.

Align your investments with your risk tolerance.

As retirement gets closer, your investment priorities might change. Consider shifting assets to align with the amount of investment risk you want to take. There are tools in your online Voya account that can help you select investments that protect your portfolio and generate retirement income. You can also contact your local Voya outreach representative.

Make the most of Social Security.

Social Security benefits may be able to supplement anywhere from 20% to 40% of your retirement income. You can receive the maximum benefits if you delay until age 70, but there are many factors to consider, and you may want to consult with a financial professional to understand your choices.

If you don’t have a financial plan, help is just a click away – log into your online Voya account and utilize all of the resources available to help you prepare for the retirement you envision. Retirement is just around the corner, and we want you to be ready.

Not yet enrolled in the Plan? Visit PERASmartSave.voya.com and click the yellow “Get Started” box.

PERA SmartSave
Deferred Compensation Plan

Getting Contracts Signed is Easy with DoIT's E-Signature Service

By Renee Narvaiz

Now is a great time to explore enabling the E-Signature service provided by the Department of Information Technology. Our team can customize available workflows for your agency’s specific needs and you can start to realize benefits including:



Save Time with DocuSign versions of:

- Professional Services Contracts
- GSD Contract Brief & Agency Certification Forms
- Campaign Contribution Forms & More

Eliminate Errors and Avoid Rework

DVR reduced error from 50% to 0% using DocuSign



Streamline signing processes – 76% of DocuSign envelopes are signed **within 24 hours**.

For more information, please reach out to DoIT’s E-Signature team by contacting Daniel.Garcia5@state.nm.us.

Stay on the lookout for new webinars this year hosted by DoIT, where we will provide demos on using DocuSign for contract processing as well as Human Resources documentation. Please email eSignature.Webinar@state.nm.us and ask to be added to our mailing list for more details.

Summer and Fall classes registering now

The NM Opportunity Scholarship at SFCC

Find out how the New Mexico Opportunity Scholarship can help you affordably earn a degree or certificate in healthcare, education, business, film or one of SFCC’s many other dynamic programs.

- Tuition-free college
- Available to all NM residents*
- Part-time and fulltime students
- Returning students



505-428-1270 | SFCC.edu

*Per residency standards set by the New Mexico Higher Education Department. Starts Fall 2022.



New Mexico Cannabis Sales Top \$5.2 Million In First Weekend

Smooth adult-use cannabis launch brings economic boon for state

By Nora Sackett

New Mexico cannabis sales totaled \$5.2 million over the first weekend of adult-use sales, the Cannabis Control Division of the Regulation and Licensing Department reported Monday. Friday, the first day of adult-use sales, was nearly double Colorado's first day of adult-use sales.

| As of | April 1 | Full Day | April 2 | Full Day | April 3 | Full Day | Weekend Total | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|---------------|----------|-----------------|--------|
| Total Sales - Medical | \$ 788,037.81 | 28.6% | \$ 557,599.53 | 35.7% | \$ 351,127.12 | 38.9% | \$ 1,696,764.46 | 32.5% |
| Total Sales - Adult Use | \$ 1,969,113.69 | 71.4% | \$ 1,003,144.19 | 64.3% | \$ 550,553.39 | 61.1% | \$ 3,522,811.27 | 67.5% |
| Total Sales - All | \$ 2,757,151.50 | 100.0% | \$ 1,560,743.72 | 100.0% | \$ 901,680.51 | 100.0% | \$ 5,219,575.73 | 100.0% |
| Total Transactions - Medical | 12,719 | 30.3% | 10,165 | 35.8% | 6,999 | 40.1% | 29,883 | 34.0% |
| Total Transactions - Adult Use | 29,191 | 69.7% | 18,227 | 64.2% | 10,472 | 59.9% | 57,890 | 66.0% |
| Total Transactions - All | 41,910 | 100.0% | 28,392 | 100.0% | 17,471 | 100.0% | 87,773 | 100.0% |

"New Mexico's launch of recreational cannabis has been one of the most successful, if not the most, of any state," said Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham. "Not to mention that we beat Colorado's numbers for first-day sales. New Mexicans demonstrated the strength of the demand for this exciting new industry, and it is clear that adult-use cannabis is going to be a contributor to our diverse state economy."

Between midnight on Friday, April 1, and 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, April 3, cannabis retailers made \$5,219,575.73 in sales with medical and adult-use purchases combined. Adult-use sales alone brought in \$3,522,811.27 and medical cannabis generated \$1,696,764.46. The dollars came from 87,773 individual transactions from every corner of the state.

"New Mexico was ready for this historic opportunity to end prohibition," said Cannabis Control Division Director Kristen Thomson. "Whether it's people moving from the illicit market to the safe, regulated legal market or brand-new customers excited to try high-quality New Mexico products for the first time, New Mexicans supported cannabis businesses in record numbers this weekend."

"In every state that launched adult-use sales before New Mexico, some retailers sold out on opening day," Thomson said. "In New Mexico, that was simply not the case. Customers and patients across the state were all able to get the products or medicine they wanted and needed. Through careful regulatory planning hand-in-hand with industry, New Mexico cannabis producers have done something that's never been done before. This weekend's successful launch is something we can all be proud of."

Other states have also seen statewide seed-to-sale tracking system problems that limited or halted sales altogether. Again, New Mexico did not experience those problems and the statewide system worked without a hitch throughout the busy weekend.

As of the start of sales on Friday, 151 retail licenses had been issued, covering nearly 250 locations.

After a smooth and safe weekend, the CCD continues to advise anyone buying cannabis to consume responsibly. The CCD recommends that new users "start low and go slow," starting with products with low THC content and slowly increasing consumption once someone has a sense of how their body is responding.

The Cannabis Regulation Act, passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor last year, called for sales of adult-use cannabis to begin no later than April 1. The new industry is projected to generate over \$300 million annually in sales, create more than 11,000 jobs and bring in \$50 million in state revenue in the first year alone.



PERA'S 75TH Anniversary seminar series

DONUT KNOW WHAT WE'D DO WITHOUT YOU



**JUNE 1, 2022
noon**

In honor of National Donut Day, we will talk with current and past PERA leaders as they talk about the last 75 years of PERA's legacy...and eat donuts!

1 TIP TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM



**JULY 7, 2022
noon**

Join us as we provide you with one tip to financial freedom as an active PERA member so that you are financially secure in retirement!

For more information visit www.nmpera.org

Chile Labor Incentive Program Funding Available

By Kristie Garcia

As part of the fiscal year 2023 state budget signed by Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham in March, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture received \$1,000,000 in appropriations to continue the Chile Labor Incentive Program, which was created by the governor in August 2021 to assist chile farmers and processors.



The program supports chile farmers and processors by supplementing the wages of workers to incentivize hiring and retention of the seasonal workforce necessary to harvest and process New Mexico chile crops.

The deadline for all applications is May 1, 2025, and funds will be disbursed on a first-come-first-serve basis until the allocated funds have been fully utilized.

“By having the Chile Labor Incentive Program funding available, we will be able to continue assisting the chile industry by distributing the labor-wage supplemental funding as needed in order to ensure the crop is harvested and processed,” said New Mexico Agriculture Secretary Jeff Witte.

Approximately \$2.8 million in support was successfully delivered to New Mexico chile growers and harvesters after Gov. Lujan Grisham created the Chile Labor Incentive Program in August 2021 in response to labor shortages reported by the industry.

“The Chile Labor Incentive Program provided much needed relief to members of our industry and their ability to harvest and process chile during the 2021 season,” said Travis Day, New Mexico Chile Association Executive Director. “We are thankful to see the program continue providing further relief for our industry, while we work toward long-term solutions to address labor shortage issues.”

Funding application information is available on the New Mexico Department of Agriculture website. <https://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/chile-labor-in-centive-program/>

NMDOT Launches First of Three Roadside Beautification Plans

Private companies begin litter pickup on I-25 Monday

By Marisa Maez

The New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) has contracted with two private companies to clean up state roadsides. On Monday, April 18, the companies will simultaneously begin tackling the highly visible, heavily traveled stretch of I-25 from La Bajada located south of Santa Fe to Los Lunas, south of Albuquerque. A separate company will work in five-mile increments on the stretch of I-25 from the Texas border, north past the city of Las Cruces.



The private contracts are paid with the \$10 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds approved by the state legislature for roadside beautification.

“This has been a long-time coming,” said State Transportation Secretary Mike Sandoval. “We know New Mexicans and out of state visitors are sick of the roadside litter plaguing our state. I can assure you, the NMDOT shares the same sentiment. That’s why we are excited for our



maintenance employees to receive support with their continued litter efforts.”

Litter and debris accumulated quickly during COVID due to people becoming lackadaisical with proper litter disposal, fewer NMDOT maintenance workers, correctional facility lockdowns, competition with local government agencies for inmate labor and lack of correctional officers to oversee the program.

The department is excited to renew its partnership and contract once again with the New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD). This second litter program will begin this summer, paid through state funding.

The third litter program headed by the department will also be paid through ARPA funds and will begin by summer’s end. This program allows another private company to hire temporary workers at the cost of \$15-\$20/per hour to work in groups of 2 to 3 with an NMDOT supervisor overseeing the employees.

The NMDOT takes litter seriously, visit www.tossnomasnm.com for more information. If you are hauling a trash, debris, or a miscellaneous load, remember to tie it, tarp it and pick it up. Dropping trash or litter on the road is a \$300 fine in New Mexico.

The New Mexico Department of Transportation is committed to the safety of the traveling public and appreciates your cooperation during this work. For the latest road information visit: The New Mexico Department of Transportation at www.nmroads.com or call 511.

The QUALITY MRI you demand.

The COMFORTABLE MRI you want.



Our new Siemens MAGNETOM Skyra 3T MRI is improving the MRI experience for both patients and doctors. Patients benefit from the most modern 3T in the west, as well as a wider opening for greater comfort and reduced anxiety. In fact, we can accommodate patients of almost any size and shape.

For doctors, our ultra high-density array enables higher spatial and temporal resolution for noticeably superior image quality, which can lead to a more accurate diagnosis.

All at prices much lower than you will find elsewhere.

For a better overall MRI experience, choose the center that makes quality, comfort and convenience a priority. **Choose Santa Fe Imaging!**

SANTA FE IMAGING

1640 Hospital Drive | Santa Fe, NM 87505
505.983.9350 | www.santafeimaging.com



More Options More Discounts

No one offers more discounts.

Even if you've checked us out in the past - You need to look again!

**AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS
MOBILE HOME • MOTORCYCLE**

Call the Office nearest you

SANTA FE
David Roembach Agency
505-471-1099
550 Saint Michaels Dr.
Suite C



farmers.com

PED Celebrates Santa Fe Teacher's National Award

New Mexico Milken Educator Award goes to Gabrielle Kahawai
By Judy Robinson

New Mexico Public Education Department officials joined students and staff at a Santa Fe elementary school today to celebrate a third-grade teacher who became the second New Mexico educator in two days to receive a national teaching award that comes with an unrestricted \$25,000 prize.



Third-grade teacher Gabrielle Kahawai reacts upon learning she's received the N.M. Milken Educator Award. Photo Credit: Milken Educator Award

In front of cheering students and proud colleagues, Gabrielle Kahawai was presented with the New Mexico Milken Educator Award from the Milken Family Foundation. On Tuesday, Loving teacher Tyler Finch was similarly surprised at a school assembly.

Public Education Secretary Kurt Steinhaus, who attended both school assemblies and whose agency coordinates the Milken Award program to celebrate and honor outstanding teachers, described Kahawai as a dedicated, talented educator who didn't let the global pandemic keep her students from learning.

"Gabrielle Kahawai has repeatedly shown a quickness to adopt new ideas and strategies, and her speedy pivot during the pandemic spread enthusiasm among both her third-graders and her teaching colleagues," Steinhaus said. "She is the kind of teacher who inspires both children and adults to do our best. Thank you, Ms. Kahawai, for being a guiding light for all of us. You make us proud."

"Exceptional educators should be celebrated and recognized, and we are thrilled to welcome Gabrielle Kahawai to our nationwide network of Milken Educators," said Jane Foley, senior vice president of the Milken Educator Awards and a 1994 Indiana Milken Educator. "Kahawai's eagerness to improve her practice through professional development and innovation, creativity in engaging students, and her outstanding leadership are just some of the many ways she exemplifies a Milken Educator."

When the PED supported schools in transitioning to online learning in spring 2020, Kahawai set up a complete virtual classroom in her home to create a school-like environment for her students and became Gonzales' de facto tech guru, helping colleagues master both tools and strategies to support virtual instruction.

Knowing that building trusting relationships is even more important in a virtual setting, Kahawai hosted a "Kids Club" to give students time to listen to and talk with each other outside of academics. Her overarching goal: making sure students get the education they deserve, regardless of any obstacles.

Kahawai served on Gonzales Community School's site-based management team and helped create a literary fair for Gonzales' younger grades. She coordinates the school's hiking club and has led students, staff and families on hikes in the Santa Fe National Forest.

In the classroom, Kahawai lets data drive her instruction, grouping students according to their academic needs and differentiating her instruction as she moves from one group to the next. To get students excited about reading, Kahawai encourages them to come to school in pajamas and slippers to show everyone how they read at home. She uses "math talks" to encourage students to verbalize their math reasoning, incorporates hands-on science learning through the Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation, and introduces students to coding.

Third graders at Gonzales excel in all subject areas, with reading and math MAP assessment scores more than twice state averages.

Kahawai earned a bachelor's in elementary education in 2012 from New Mexico Highlands University.

She and Finch join more than 2,800 teachers who have received the award since the Milken Family Foundation began the program in 1987 to reward early to mid-career educators and inspire teaching excellence nationally. This year, 60 educators were selected from all over the country.

Sixty-two New Mexico educators have been Milken recipients since New Mexico joined the program in 1992. A complete list of those recipients is available here: State Partner: New Mexico (milkeneducatorawards.org)

In addition to the one-time, \$25,000 award, Milken Educators receive access to powerful networking and development tools throughout their careers. Altogether, the foundation has invested more than \$138 million to the program.

Fastest way to save!

75% off all fares*

Now through July 31

*Excludes Annual Pass



 **riometro.org**

Expect Checkpoints Statewide During Hunting and Fishing Seasons

By Tristanna Bickford

The Department of Game and Fish will conduct checkpoints throughout the state during hunting and fishing seasons, in hunting and angling areas, to collect harvest data and to detect wildlife law violations. The 2022-2023 hunting and fishing season began April 1. All hunters and anglers are required to purchase a new license before hunting and fishing. Guides and outfitters are also reminded that new registration is required.



The general turkey season begins April 15. For more information, please consult the Department's Hunting Rules and Information Booklet. https://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/download/publications/rib/2022/hunting/2022_2023-New-Mexico-Hunting-Rules-and-Info.pdf

Hunters and anglers can expect checkpoints throughout the spring and summer. At checkpoints, conservation officers will check for compliance with the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Act. Drivers of vehicles hauling wood products will be asked to produce documentation as required by the Forest Conservation Act.

Department officers may be assisted by other law enforcement agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Police or county sheriff's offices. As a result, the public may encounter minor delays.

Everyone is encouraged to report any wildlife crime or suspected crime they see while enjoying New Mexico's great outdoors.

To report a wildlife crime, please call Operation Game Thief toll free at 1-800-432-GAME (4263). Callers can remain anonymous and earn rewards for information leading to charges being filed. Violations also can be reported online at Operation Game Thief. <https://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/enforcement/operation-game-thief-overview/>

New Mexico Ranked No. 3 for Identifying Young Children who will Benefit from Early Intervention Services

ECECD promotes FIT program accomplishments during Autism Awareness Month

By Patrick Rodriguez

In recognition of Autism Awareness Month in April, the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) Family Infant Toddler (FIT) program reaffirms its commitment to help New Mexico families access high quality, no-cost early intervention services for children from birth to age 3 who have or may be at risk for a developmental delay, while also making sure the services provided are accessible, respectful, and family-centered. The Lujan Grisham administration's commitment is reflected in New Mexico's ranking third in the United States for identifying young children who could benefit from early intervention services, as determined by the federal Office of Special Education Programs.



NEW MEXICO
Early Childhood
Education & Care Department

"The New Mexico Family Infant Toddler Program is committed to ensuring that all of New Mexico's children are supported to fully participate in their families and communities so that the gifts they bring to this world can be fully realized," said Leah Davidson, FIT program manager. "Our children with autism deserve the best we have to offer in terms of effective intervention and honoring each child's unique self. We dream of a world that is designed for all of us, regardless of neurological makeup. We are committed to actively building that world by supporting children with autism and their families and supporting the world around them to be a more inclusive place."

The FIT program has agreements with provider agencies in all 33 counties in New Mexico and maintains a referral process for anyone concerned about a child's development. These provider agencies employ professionals with a range of skills and backgrounds, from broad family support experience to specialized medical knowledge. Eligibility for services is related to a percentage delay in the child's development, or one of several diagnoses or risk criteria within the family unit.

In the last fiscal year, despite pivoting to telehealth access because of social distancing measures in place at the time, the FIT program was able to serve 13,261 young children across the state.

Other FIT program accomplishments include:

- Funded an increase in the rate of reimbursement to FIT provider agencies in FY22, following an evaluation of the program's infrastructure to determine the most economic sense to build a robust early intervention system across New Mexico.
- Reduced waitlist for autism evaluations for children from birth to age 3, using \$260,000 in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

About five years ago, Matt C. and his wife noticed that their then-18-month-old daughter was having difficulty meeting developmental milestones, so they enrolled their daughter in early intervention services at Zia Therapy Center, a FIT provider agency in Alamogordo. After performing evaluations, Zia Therapy Center recommended that their daughter be screened for autism, which ended up being a positive diagnosis.

"The early intervention services we received at Zia Therapy Center were terrific and they showed us how to be the strongest advocates for our daughter throughout the entire process," said Matt. "The therapy we received following the autism diagnosis immediately helped us navigate what it meant and implement the appropriate services to teach our daughter and us as parents the critical skills to improve our daily lives."

For parents/guardians who are unsure if their young child is meeting developmental milestones, the FIT program offers an online screening Ages and Stages Questionnaire in English, <https://www.asqonline.com/family/78ee99>, and Spanish, <https://www.asqonline.com/family/be46f7>.

Parents seeking FIT services are encouraged to call 1-877-696-1472.

SAVE MONEY & THE ENVIRONMENT

With Positive Energy Solar's **decades of experience**, **\$0-down financing options**, and **industry-leading 30-year warranty**, you can feel confident knowing you made the **right choice** to go solar & save on your electric bills!




Positive Energy
SOLAR

Employee Owned • Local • Certified B-Corp

Schedule your **FREE** consultation today to learn what solar can do to reduce your carbon footprint & your electric bills!

505.295.2256 • PositiveEnergySolar.com



Give your kids a brighter and better future with a 529 education savings plan!

As this school year ends, we look forward to a brighter and better future for our children. Opening a 529 college savings plan with The Education Plan is a step in the right direction. A 529 offers the flexibility to be used for qualified expenses associated with in-person or online college or vocational school including tuition, room & board, books, computers, and so much more. It's never too late to get started with The Education Plan, New Mexico's state-sponsored 529 plan.

TheEducationPlan.com

For more information about The Education Plan, call 1.877.337.5268 or visit theeducationplan.com to obtain a Plan Description and Participation Agreement, which includes investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other important information; read and consider it carefully before investing.

The Education Plan® and The Education Plan® Logo are registered trademarks of The Education Trust Board of New Mexico used under license.
TEP.0052.RDR.0422



The Education Plan®
A little today goes a long way

Unprecedented Federal and State Funding Advances Important Rural Water Supply Project in Eastern New Mexico

By Nora Sackett

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on March 31st announced up to \$163 million in funding for the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System pipeline, which will provide a reliable water source for 70,000 New Mexicans, as well as Cannon Air Force Base.

"No one understands the value of a reliable water source more than New Mexicans. As we continue to feel the effects of ongoing drought and climate change, it is more important than ever to deliver clean water to all New Mexicans," said Gov. Lujan Grisham. "I am proud to work with our federal and local partners, as well as state legislators and the Congressional delegation, to advance this critical project in eastern New Mexico."

The funding is a portion of \$420 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which will be distributed for rural water projects across six states including Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota. The eastern New Mexico project is receiving the greatest portion of funding. Gov. Lujan Grisham secured an additional \$20 million from her capital outlay funding during the 2022 legislative session to complete the state's cost-share requirements for the project.

"This project is important to the Department of the Interior as it will help ensure the water supply for eastern New Mexico communities as we continue to encounter unprecedented drought," said Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Tanya Trujillo. "Through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we were able to provide this significant boost in funding to move this project toward completion."

The project will provide a supply of treated surface water to parts of Eastern New Mexico including Clovis, Elida, Portales, Texico, Cannon Air Force Base, and unincorporated areas in Roosevelt and Curry counties that currently rely on the steadily declining Ogallala groundwater aquifer for their supply. The Ogallala Aquifer is the sole source of municipal and agricultural water for much of eastern New Mexico, and it is estimated that under current withdrawals from the aquifer, it will be depleted in less than 15 years.



Avoid guessing games.

Know the price before you begin.

Get Upfront Transparent Pricing today.
Walk in or make an appointment.

2107 CERRILLOS RD | SANTA FE | 505-471-6363

3517 ZAFARANO DR STE A23 | SANTA FE | 505-473-7591

1010-D N RIVERSIDE DR | ESPANOLA | 505-753-4866

**H&R
BLOCK**

Ask about our No Surprise Guarantee. See hrblock.com/guarantees or ask your tax pro for details. OBTP#B13696 ©2019 HRB Tax Group, Inc.

State Personnel Office Offers New Course on Interpersonal Leadership Skills

By Martha Kunkel



Whether your job description calls for it, or circumstances place you in a leadership role, you may need to demonstrate specific interpersonal capabilities to be effective in your position. With that in mind, the State Personnel Office is providing a new training course called Interpersonal Leadership Skills. This instructor-led course explores the essential skills that leaders need to relate well with others in the workplace. Key skill areas in communication, motivating others, and applying concepts such as emotional intelligence are explored. Ideas for strengthening these skills are outlined so that leadership capacity can be increased. Six defined styles of leadership are identified, with practical, relatable examples from everyday work experiences. Small group breakout sessions allow learners to gain hands-on practice in selecting the best leadership style for given situations. Classes are open for enrollment each month. Currently, all classes are being conducted remotely (using Zoom). Please view State Personnel's Training calendar at <https://www.spo.state.nm.us/training/training-calendar/> or view class listings and register directly using the Enterprise Learning Management (ELM) system at <https://elm.share.state.nm.us/>. Learn more about training offered by the State Personnel Office on their website at: <https://www.spo.state.nm.us/training/>, or email them with questions at personnel.training@state.nm.us.

Law Enforcement on the Lookout for Impaired Drivers As Cannabis Sales Begin

By H.L. Lovato



With recreational cannabis sales beginning New Mexico law enforcement reminds the public that it is illegal to drive a vehicle while under the influence of cannabis.

In the State of New Mexico, it is unlawful for an adult to drive a vehicle who is under the influence of alcohol with an alcohol concentration of .08 or higher and/or any drug to a degree that renders the person incapable of safely driving.

"Driving under the influence of drugs, including cannabis, puts others at risk—plain and simple," said New Mexico Department of Public Safety Secretary Jason R. Bowie. "New Mexicans should know that drivers who are impaired to the slightest degree can go to jail. Just don't get behind the wheel of a vehicle under the influence."

In 2021, the New Mexico Department of Public Safety received funding from legislators to train state police in the Drug Recognition Expert certification program. The program is designed to teach officers how to determine if a driver is operating their vehicle while impaired by drugs and/or alcohol. Officers who are trained through the Drug Recognition Expert program are trained to evaluate signs of impairment rather than relying solely on the smell of cannabis.

Cannabis has measurable physiological effects that impair drivers including delayed or decreased reaction time, decreased short-term memory, poor hand-eye coordination, lack of concentration, and a decreased perception of time and distance.

"New Mexico State Police are committed to your safety. If you choose to drink or use cannabis, remember there is no acceptable reason to drive under the influence," said Tim Johnson, chief of the New Mexico State Police. "New Mexico State Police officers patrol the highways every day to keep the roads safe and will be on the lookout for impaired drivers."

A OWI conviction can have both civil and financial consequences. New Mexico drunk driving criminal court cases can result in punishment that includes jail time, fines, mandatory DWI educational programs, ignition interlock devices, and more. A OWI conviction may result in a driver's license suspension from 90 days to one year or more.

The New Mexico State Police will continue to conduct sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols in all New Mexico counties, to raise awareness, educate, and enforce laws.

NMED Lowers Interest Rate For Wastewater-Related Projects In New Mexico

Clean Water State Revolving Fund is lowering the interest rate to 0.01% for public borrowers

By Matthew Maez

The New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) is lowering the interest rate to 0.01% for all public entities that do not qualify for the 0% interest rate. The extraordinarily low interest rate will augment the unprecedented funds coming to the CWSRF from the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The NMED CWSRF will combine the new lower interest rate with allowed federal grant subsidization to better support communities, particularly small and rural communities with limited revenue streams. The funding packages that will result from the combined funding opportunities can propel infrastructure development in all regions of New Mexico.

The CWSRF is a versatile funding program to finance traditional wastewater treatment and sewer collection projects, as well as stormwater projects, septic systems and other decentralized wastewater treatment, habitat protection and restoration, groundwa-



ter and surface water protection and restoration, and energy and water conservation projects.

“All New Mexicans deserve to live in communities with adequate wastewater and stormwater infrastructure and a safe environment,” said Environment Cabinet Secretary James Kenney. “Thanks to the unprecedented funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, our ability to fund wastewater infrastructure projects has never been greater. We encourage entities who need to make upgrades to their wastewater and stormwater infrastructure to take advantage of this unprecedented low interest rate.”

“We are very excited have this extraordinary opportunity to provide the communities of New Mexico with



funding at a historically low interest rate to help fund much needed wastewater and stormwater infrastructure” said Construction Programs Bureau Chief Judi Kahl.

Over the next year, NMED will receive \$15 million in available CWSRF funds, in addition to the existing available balance of \$92.3 million that is available for eligible projects today. The CWSRF accepts applications year-round and funds both small and multi-million-dollar projects. The CWSRF offers direct funding with no bond fees, no origination fees, no application fees, and no penalties for early repayment, all with outstanding customer service. Private entities with eligible projects can apply for CWSRF loans at the below-market rate of 2.375%.

NMED is dedicated to making economic investments that promote public health, environmental protec-



tion, and compliance. Economic investment is critical to New Mexico's ability to continue to build resilient environments. Since inception, the New Mexico CWSRF has funded 164 projects totaling \$515 million dollars. Projects recently funded through the CWSRF include \$13.46 million for construction of a new wastewater treatment system in Bloomfield, \$2.56 million for upgrades to the Springer Wastewater Treatment Plant, \$1.1 million for decommissioning of a lagoon in Chama, and \$2 million for solar power at the Taos Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Entities looking for more information about the CWSRF can visit the NMED website <https://www.env.nm.gov/funding-opportunities/> or contact 505-469-3459.



DAVID NATER



KATRINA HOTRUM-LOPEZ



LENA ERNST, PH.D.



ANNA SANCHEZ

VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION

Addressing Elevated Social Isolation & Behavioral Health Issues In Seniors

Panelists discuss social isolation and behavioral health issues among seniors and solutions that have been identified and implemented.

DAVID NATER

PLAN PRESIDENT, MOLINA HEALTHCARE OF NEW MEXICO

KATRINA HOTRUM-LOPEZ

CABINET SECRETARY, NEW MEXICO AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES DEPARTMENT

LENA ERNST, PH.D.

FOUNDER & CLINICAL DIRECTOR, RETREAT HEALTHCARE

ANNA SANCHEZ

DIRECTOR, CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR AFFAIRS

Watch Now: molinacares.com/nm/virtualpanel



Building Stronger Communities...One Life at a Time



SPOTLIGHT

On New Mexico Leadership

New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department



Superintendent Linda Trujillo began her career in state government at the Regulation and Licensing Department in 2006. She was hired as the Deputy Director for the Boards and Commissions Division during Governor Richardson's administration. In 2011, Linda moved to the State Records Center and Archives and in 2014 she was appointed by the Commission of Public Records to serve as the State Records Administrator.

Linda also has a long history of supporting and advocating for public education. Prior to attending law school, she gained first-hand experience in the classroom as a Head Start teacher and then as a volunteer coordinator for a school district in Washington State. As the first person in her family to attend college, Linda has seen how education can have a positive impact on a family. She believes that public education is the foundation of our democracy. She earned an associate degree in early childhood education from Green River Community College, a bachelor's degree in public administration from Evergreen State College, and a Juris Doctorate from the Seattle University School of Law.

In 2011 and again in 2015, Linda was elected to serve on the Santa Fe Public Schools Board of Education. In 2014, the New Mexico School Boards Association (NMSBA) awarded her School Board Member of the Year and in 2017, she served as President of the NMSBA.

In November of 2016 and again in 2018, Linda was elected to the New Mexico State House of Representatives. During this period, Linda worked at Walsh Gallegos, a private law firm representing school districts around the state.

The Regulation and Licensing Department (NMRLD) is the State's leading regulatory agency. NMRLD works with local governments, tribes, businesses, and civic leaders throughout the State to strengthen our community so all New Mexicans can thrive, while protecting citizens and visitors to our State. NMRLD provides oversight and educates the public in promoting economic vitality statewide. NMRLD's Office of the Superintendent provides leadership and operational support to the departments divisions that are designed to attract new businesses to New Mexico, retain current businesses, and facilitate small businesses growth.

1. How many employees does your department have?

The Regulation and Licensing Department currently has 284 employees and are actively hiring new talent every day.

2. Where are your offices located?

NMRLD's main office is located at the Toney Anaya Building, 2550 Cerrillos Rd., Santa Fe, NM. There are also two satellite offices, 5500 San Antonio NE, Albuquerque, and 505 South Main Street, Suite 103 Loretto Town Center in Las Cruces.

3. What is the mission of the agency?

To promote public confidence in professional, occupational services, trades, and industries by finding innovative solutions for business in the interest of public safety and economic vitality.

4. What does the agency do?

NMRLD regulates more than 500,000 individuals and businesses in 35 industries, professions, and trades across the state. We strive to assure that New Mexicans receive quality services from qualified individuals and businesses while also ensuring a fair and prompt administrative process.

5. What areas does the Regulation and Licensing oversee?

NMRLD oversees 7 divisions. See page 17 for details

6. What would you like to share with the public about NMRLD?

The Regulation and Licensing Department touches 1 in every 5 New Mexican.

When visiting a dentist for a cleaning, sitting in the barber's chair for a trim or trying to read the alphabet chart for an eye exam, you may take for granted the qualifications of professionals providing these services, but the New Mexico Regulation & Licensing Department doesn't.

The New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department is in the business of ensuring that New Mexicans receive quality care and services from qualified individuals and businesses in different industries, professions, and trades. We touch everyday activities of every New Mexican, while ensuring fair and prompt administrative process to help spur economic development

7. Opportunity to recognize an individual, group of people, or special project within your department.

"I would like to recognize and thank all employees at Team NMRLD for their hard work and dedication. I am grateful for every member of this incredible team for their contributing talents and skills in serving all New Mexicans" – Superintendent Linda Trujillo.

NMRLD would like to recognize and celebrate "Clay Bailey Day"!

Due to circumstances that occurred when an LP gas supplier could not meet his obligations in the Rio Arriba County, the Construction Industries Division and its LP Gas Bureau were called to work with other government agencies and industry members to ensure the residents of this county had propane to heat their homes, cook and bathe. This occurred in conjunction of damaging windstorm and winter weather. Clay Bailey, Director of the Construction Industries Division, lead his team and coordinated with the LP gas suppliers and community to make certain they had the lifesaving propane fuel to keep warm and keep their homes from freezing. This incident resulted in the governor declaring an emergency and ultimately signing of Senate Bill



Gov. Lujan Grisham and Clay Bailey with his proclamation

141 to prevent this from happening in the future. Governor Lujan Grisham issued a proclamation to honor, Clay Bailey, Director of the Construction Industries Division for his outstanding work on March 2, 2022, "Clay Bailey Day."

In NMRLD would like to introduce its newest division, the Cannabis Control Division. The Cannabis Control Division (CCD) is tasked with licensing and regulating the adult-use cannabis industries. The Cannabis Regulation Act came into existence on June 29, 2021, and the agency immediately stood up a professional team of regulators to keep New Mexico's nationally recognized medical cannabis program on track as the team worked with stakeholders, communities and other agencies to craft effective rules for the adult-use cannabis industry. The CCD has put in place an open and transparent rule-making process to stand-up a thriving adult-use cannabis industry in New Mexico. Retail sales began on April 1, 2022.

The new NMRLD logo was launched in January 2021. The shape within the New Mexico Regulation & Licensing Department oversight of industries and services and the consumer's ability to professional. The colors signify the warmth and landscape of our



NMRLD
NEW MEXICO
REGULATION &
LICENSING DEPARTMENT

of the check mark-segments within the logo represents the divisions. They resemble checkmarks that symbolize both the departments "check" with the NMRLD to be sure they are working with a licensed state as well as the state flag.

NMRLD Oversees 7 Divisions

Continued from page 16 question #5



NMRLD

NEW MEXICO
REGULATION &
LICENSING DEPARTMENT

Alcoholic Beverage Control Division: The Alcoholic Beverage Control Division focuses to protect the health, safety and welfare of all New Mexicans and visitors to the state, by responsibly regulating the sale, service and public consumption of alcohol. The division takes seriously every complaint alleging potential violations of liquor control laws and works closely with the Special Investigations Unit of the Department of Public Safety in investigating and prosecuting such violations.

Boards And Commissions Division: This Division has oversight of over 35 different professions and specialized trades. Each board and commission operate under its own set of rules and its own professional licensing requirements, which are established by law. The Governor of New Mexico appoints members to the various boards and commissions and those members work closely with the RLD Superintendent to protect consumer rights while promoting good business practices, that lead to continued economic growth.

Cannabis Control Division: The Cannabis Control Act created a comprehensive licensing, taxing and enforcement regulatory structure for adult use cannabis in the state that is administered by the Cannabis Control Division. The CCD administers the CRA and the licensing and regulatory provisions of the Medical Cannabis Program that was created by the Lynn and Erin Compassion Use Act (LECUA).

Construction Industries Division: This Division collaborates with the general public, trade organizations, municipalities, local code officials, contractors, subcontractors, architects, design professionals, LP Gas distributors and homeowners, to assist economic growth in New Mexico and protect life and property safety of all citizens.

Financial Institution Division: The Financial Institutions Division works to protect public interest and preserve public trust by regulating the business of state-chartered credit unions, savings and loans associations and the financial activities of life care institutions under its supervision.

Manufactured Housing Division: The Manufactured Housing Division regulates manufacturers, dealers, brokers, salespersons, installers and repairmen to ensure compliance of federal and state law in the manufacture and installation of manufactured homes.

Securities Division: The Securities Division protects investors and maintains public confidence in the securities markets while avoiding unreasonable burdens on participants in the capital markets.

Fire Restrictions Implemented Statewide; Game and Fish Patrolling Commission Properties

By **Tristanna Bickford**



With incidences of wildfires increasing daily, the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) Forestry Division announced restrictions on fireworks, smoking, campfires and open fires in New Mexico.

The restrictions are in effect as of 12:00 p.m. today, Friday, April 22, 2022. The Forestry Division will continue to coordinate with other jurisdictions including federal, counties and municipalities to ensure that appropriate protections are in place to protect New Mexico as fire danger and wildfires increase.

The Department of Game and Fish will follow guidelines initiated by the State Forestry Division for Game Commission-owned properties across the state. Commission-owned properties will also follow the same restrictions or closures in place on adjacent U.S. Forest Service or BLM lands. Additional information about active fires, restrictions and closures can be found at nmfireinfo.com.

Department of Game and Fish conservation officers will enforce current fire restrictions and increase patrols on State Game Commission-owned properties. Conservation officers will be looking for other common violations, including off-highway vehicle registration and safe use as well checking for fishing licenses and related violations.

FIVE MEDIA

3D VIRTUAL TOUR • HDR PHOTOGRAPHY

LISA HINSON
OWNER / PHOTOGRAPHER

(505) 603-8335
INFO@FIVEMEDIA.COM

FIVEMEDIA.COM



Report Bad Healthcare Workers

BAD HEALTHCARE WORKERS DO THIS:

HARM SOMEONE IN NURSING CARE:

healthcare workers hurting people living away from home.

HARM SOMEONE IN HOME CARE:

caregivers, including paid family members, hurting people living at home.

HARM SOMEONE BY GIVING TOO MUCH MEDICINE:

doctors, nurse practitioners and pharmacists hurting patients.

BILLS WRONG ON PURPOSE OR GIVES VERY POOR CARE:

doctor and dental offices, care homes, and home care workers hurting patients.

We help people called "whistleblowers" who may lose their job by reporting bad healthcare workers.

We can't take reports about **Medicaid Consumer Fraud**. Report bad Medicaid consumers to **1-800-228-4802** or **HSD-OIG.Fraud@state.nm.us**

Report Bad Healthcare Workers
Call In: 505-717-3500 Ext. 3
Email: report.MFCU@nmag.gov
Online: <https://secure.nmag.gov/ecs>

National Work Zone Awareness Week ran April 11-15

'Work Zones are a Sign to Slow Down'

By Marisa Maez and Ami Evans

National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) is held each spring to raise awareness as roadway work gets into full swing. The goal is to remind everyone to pay attention as they approach and drive through or past work zones so both motorists and roadway workers remain safe.

Drivers are urged to slow down, eliminate distractions, don't tailgate, stay calm, be patient and move over to avoid roadway workers and their equipment. This year's National Work Zone Awareness Week theme is 'Work Zones are a Sign to Slow Down.'

Tragically, the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) is grieving the death of a beloved employee killed on US 285 Dec. 6, 2021, in a work zone crash. Mittie Runyan was with the department for 21 years. She was driving a state vehicle with her safety lights flashing in a work zone when she was struck from behind by a large commercial vehicle.

"These road crews put their lives

on the line daily and want to go home to their families and loved ones," said Transportation Secretary Mike Sandoval. "They work tirelessly to keep the roads safe for the traveling public. The least motorists can do is keep them safe too."

According to the Federal Highway Administration, between 2018 and 2019, fatal crashes in work zones increased by 11 percent despite a 2 percent decrease in crashes outside of work zones. Most of these work zone fatalities were due to rear-end collisions.

Nationally, work zone crashes occur at an average of one every 5.8 minutes. The top three causes of work zone crashes are following too closely, inattentive and/or distracted driving, and excessive speed.

In the fall of 2021 four of my employees were hit and injured, though luckily not killed while repairing cable barrier, another routine maintenance activity," said District Engineer Trent Doolittle. "Every day our employees risk their lives to ensure the travelling

public gets to their destinations safely."

Both New Mexico State Police, Lieutenant Charles Madrid and Texas Department of Public Safety, Sergeant Marc Couch, reminded drivers of the Move Over/Slow Down law, which requires drivers to move over a lane or reduce their speed to 20 mph below the posted limit when they see flashing blue or amber lights on a DOT vehicle, emergency vehicle or tow truck stopped on the roadside. Not doing so can result in a fine of up to \$2,000.

The NMDOT co-hosted a NWZAW news conference with El Paso-Texas Department of Transportation on Monday, April 11 at the Anthony Visitor's Center located at the border of Texas and New Mexico. "In the El Paso District in 2021, there were 907 traffic crashes in work zones, resulting in 3 fatalities and 13 serious injuries. In El Paso, there were 777 traffic crashes in work zones, re-



NM and TX crews



sulting in 1 fatality and 9 serious injuries." said Director of Transportation Operations Eduardo Perales, P.E., TxDOT El Paso. "Speeding is one of the most common offenses our crews witness. The NMDOT and TxDOT is committed to the safety of the traveling public and appreciates your cooperation during roadway construction zones. For updated information visit: New Mexico Department of Transportation at www.nmroads.com or call 511 or 1-800-432-4269. Visit: Texas Department of Transportation work zones and closures visit <http://drivetexas.org> or www.txdot.gov The NMDOT will utilize social media posts to draw awareness to the national traffic safety campaign.



NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY



Rio Rancho, Farmington, Santa Fe and Albuquerque

UNDERGRADUATE:

- Business
- Criminal Justice
- Education
- Software Systems Design (Rio Rancho)
- Social Work
- Psychology
- University Studies

GRADUATE:

- Business
- Education
- Social Work
- Counseling

www.nmhu.edu

NOW IS YOUR TIME! WE ARE FAMILY!

State Provides Another \$2.5 Million in Job Training Funds to 13 Companies in April 2022

By Bruce Krasnow



Ramel Family Farms greenhouse grading

April 2022 Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) funding was awarded to 13 companies for a total of \$2.5 million. These funds will be used to train 188 new employees and 16 interns in jobs throughout the state, Economic Development Department Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes announced April 13th.

Since Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham took office in 2019, JTIP has been awarded to 387 businesses and assisted with training for 8,236 jobs.

"JTIP is a tool that can help many diverse types of industries. It's a great incentive for companies to not only hire more employees, but hire them right here in New Mexico," EDD Cabinet Secretary Keyes said. "I'm especially excited to see more companies from rural New Mexico applying. Our rural areas need these jobs and their communities benefit from the industry growth in countless ways."

JTIP funds classroom and on-the-job training for newly-created jobs in expanding or relocating businesses for up to 6 months. The program reimburses 50-75% of employee wages, including a 5% increased reimbursement for rural-located businesses. The 13 companies receiving JTIP funds this month are:

- **Alstate Steel, Inc., Albuquerque,** 14 trainees at an average wage of \$21.98, for a total award of \$119,410. Alstate Steel is a structural steel and miscellaneous fabricator performing work primarily in New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado. Alstate Steel operates in two facilities that are

adjacent to each other, combined, both facilities offer more than 32,000 square feet of steel fabrication along with enhanced production and delivery capabilities

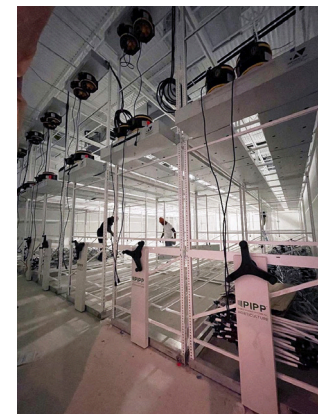
- **General Airframe Support, Inc.,** Roswell, 19 trainees at an average wage of \$19.31, for a total award of \$205,090. General Airframe Support is an Aviation Supplier Association (ASA) accredited distributor of aircraft parts and accredited by Aircraft Fleet Recycling Association (AFRA) in the disassembly and recycling of aircraft.
- **Indica Labs, Inc.** Albuquerque, 17 trainees at an average wage of \$40.02 and 6 interns at an average wage of \$25.62, for a total award of \$422,054. Indica Labs, Inc. was founded in Corrales, New Mexico. The company provides solutions that streamline the image analysis workflow for digital pathology, including HALO and HALO AI for fast, quantitative evaluation of images and HALO Link for collaborative image and data management.
- **Kairos Power LLC,** Albuquerque, 32 trainees at an average wage of \$43.59 and 10 interns at an average wage of \$26.50, for a total award of \$766,280. Kairos Power, LLC is an advanced energy technology and engineering company focused on the development of a clean, innovative nuclear technology that has the potential to transform the energy landscape around the world.
- **LQ Digital LLC,** Albuquerque, 47 trainees at an average wage of \$15.32, for a total award of \$127,970. LQ Digital LLC provides Lead Qualification & Transfer Services to companies who provide products and services to consumers and businesses.
- **Orenda Farms LLC,** Clovis, 19 trainees at an average wage of \$26.59, for a total award of \$355,594.
- **Vana, LLC,** Clovis, 15 trainees at an average wage of \$25.13, for a total award of \$280,924. Orenda Farms, LLC and Vana, LLC are minority-, women-owned companies. Both com-

panies will operate in the same leased facility, converting an 11,200-square-foot warehouse into a state-of-the-art indoor growing and production cannabis facility in Clovis.

- **Parting Stone, LLC,** Santa Fe, 15 trainees at an average wage of \$21.67, for a total award of \$134,230. Parting Stone has developed an alternative to cremated remains to memorialize those we love.
- **Paseo Pottery,** Santa Fe, 2 trainees at an average wage of \$21.50, for a total award of \$21,640. Paseo Pottery is a working pottery studio factory and showroom and a pottery-powered charity, embracing a radical form of conscious capitalism: cover costs, then donate the rest to improve society. 100% of net proceeds from their pottery "experiences" that are designed for tourists are donated to local charities each year.
- **Ramel Family Farms, LLC,** Raton, 2 trainees at an average wage of \$20.37, for a total award of \$28,763.
- Ramel Family Farms is a start-up, veteran-, and employee-owned agricultural operation, which will bring local food production to a food desert

region that includes Colfax County, NM and Las Animas County, CO.

- **Sceye, Inc.,** Moriarty, 1 trainee at an hourly wage of \$45.63, for a total award of \$37,964.16. Sceye, Inc. has created a new class of airships for the stratosphere.
- **SRE Wellness, Inc.,** Albuquerque, 1 trainee at an hourly wage of \$39.00, for an amended award amount of \$22,308. SRE Wellness, Inc serves edibles manufacturers with best-in-class, fast-onset edible formulations.
- **The Verdes Foundation,** Albuquerque, 4 trainees at an average wage of \$16.88, for a total award of \$17,640. The Verdes Foundation is a nonprofit organization and is one of the longest operating production and dispensaries in New Mexico.



Orenda Farms indoor growing and production facility



Leonore Baca

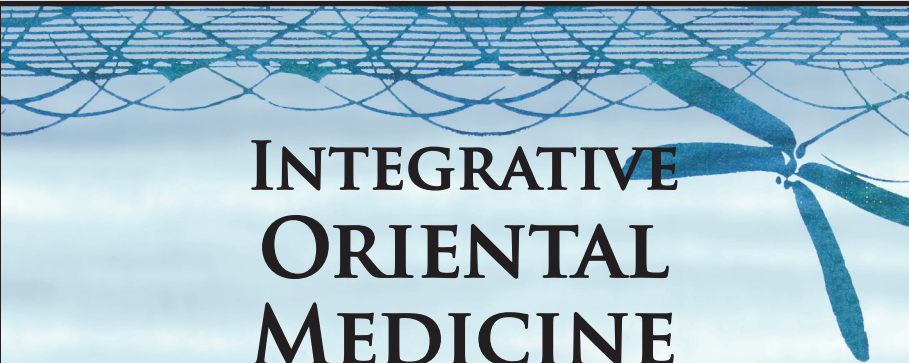
KW Santa Fe, Associate Broker
505-231-6402

Home to sell?
Looking for your Beautiful home?
I can help you!

kw KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

130 Lincoln Ave., Suite K, Santa Fe
505-983-5151

Se Habla Espanol



INTEGRATIVE ORIENTAL MEDICINE

JAPANESE ACUPUNCTURE
KOTOTAMA TRADITION

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTHCARE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY


ALLERGIES · ANXIETY & STRESS · ARTHRITIS
DIABETES · INSULIN RESISTANCE · WEIGHT LOSS
INFERTILITY IVF PROTOCOLS · MENOPAUSE & PERIMENOPAUSE
IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME · PROSTATE ISSUES
STOP SMOKING · VERTIGO · AUTO-IMMUNE DISEASES
AUTO & SPORTS INJURIES · PAIN & TRAUMA MANAGEMENT
SIDE EFFECTS OF CANCER TREATMENTS

Most Major Insurances Accepted

FIQUET HANNA DUCKWORTH, D.O.M.
1510 S. St. Francis Drive • Santa Fe

505.982.9626

FiquetHannaDuckworthClinic.com

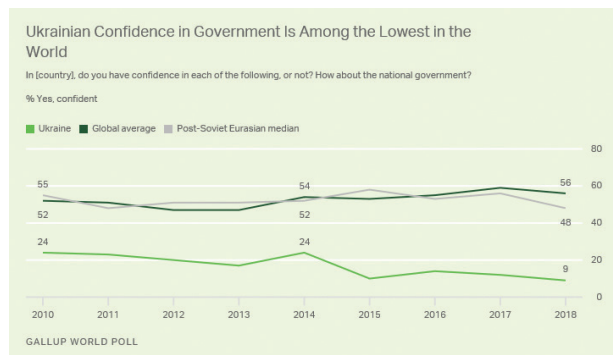


Leadership Lessons

By Nick Mandel

What a difference a war makes. With no sarcasm and unkindness intended, the Ukrainian war has produced an example of profiles in courage and extraordinary leadership.

When Ukrainians went to the polls in March of 2019 during the first round of elections to retain or elect a new president, there were 39 candidates on the ballot. The choices included retaining existing president Petro Poroshenko, mired in graft, tax evasion, and facing impeachment, current Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, and a comedian and actor running for his first public office, Volodymyr Zelensky, one of the very many dark horses of the ballot. Resembling the dysfunction of our own national politics, only 9% of the populace had any confidence in the national government according to Gallup polling.



With Zelensky's election as president after the second round of voting there remained little confidence or hope that he contained the necessary skill set to lead the country out of corruption and into respectability of the European Union and acceptance into NATO, one of the country's aspirations.

What has been remarkable is how an actor and comedian, a first-time elected official with no public policy experience, has blossomed to unite the nation during the crisis of war. On the eve of these circumstances public policy experts considered him out of his league, over his head and nowhere near having the ability to competently lead his country in this international crisis. There are lessons here for all of us in whatever positions of leadership we hold.

Author Jake Morgan writes about the leadership skills of Zappo co-founder Tony Hsieh, the on-line shoe and clothing retailer, now owned by Amazon. One of Hsieh's leadership principles was being close to the ground. When relocating Zappos corporate office to Las Vegas, he wanted Zappos to be a catalyst of economic growth to a part of the city in need. Instead of

selecting a location near the strip or other affluent section of the city he chose downtown Las Vegas, a section of the city left behind during the dynamic growth of the nineties. To be part of the community he resided in a trailer and rented space to live

among employees and residents. Think about when U.S. officials offered to transport Zelensky and his family safely out of Ukraine and his response, "I need ammunition, not a ride." How close to the ground are you to the people your leading?

In the book, Leadership on the Line, authors Ron Heifetz and

Marty Linsky provide an overview on how those in a position of leadership can be more effective. One is becoming an adaptive leader and recognizing adaptive challenges. When Zelensky was elected president there were few indications or predictions that anything closely resembling an invasion and war was on the horizon. Perhaps most challenging was President Trump asking Zelensky for a "favor." Now the challenges, obstacles and realities of leading Ukraine are so much more than expected or anticipated. Similarly, in our professional and personal space we can often find ourselves in unfound, unfamiliar, and difficult territory requiring new skill sets, a different perspective, and a different approach to solving the difficulty. When war appeared to be on the horizon in February of this year, Zelensky distanced himself from any conflict and minimized the risk publicly. Now Zelensky, the European Union and NATO, all find themselves in a different position. Being adaptive as a leader is facing and realities of the present. What are the realities and circumstances you're facing in your leadership role?

A thought leader, or influencer, is someone who, based on their expertise and standing in an industry, world affairs or education, can offer unique guidance, inspire innovation, and influence others. While the concept is not uniformly recognized in management and business schools, it is one that continues to evolve.

Denise Brosseau, CEO of the Thought Leadership Lab, posts that while politicians and elected officials

rarely display a level of thought leadership, Zelensky is an exception. His mastery of communication, storytelling and emotion makes us want to affiliate with him and see him succeed. He can speak to his audience's language, whether the British Parliament, NATO officials, or the public appealing for help. He tells his true-life stories of he and his family being targets of Russian assignation conspirators or his grief over the destruction of a maternity hospital and lives lost, and we empathize and feel his comparison. While few of us will have to experience these appalling circumstances, the ability to skillfully communicate and share existing challenges in a personal manner are traits that lead to a higher level of leadership. Are you able to communicate and share in an authentic and emphatic manner to those you lead?

Kornferry CEO Gary Burnison writing in his blog reminds us that as Easter season closes, the rituals of reflecting, resetting, and renewal are practices that should be considered in our personal and professional leadership capacities. That in reflecting we can be honest with ourselves, weakness, and strengths. That in resetting we can leave behind the mistakes of the past and start new beginnings. And that in renewal we can become our better selves. In the challenges the people and president of Ukraine are encountering, these traits have been present as well. While the future of Ukraine remains uncertain, the lessons of leadership will prevail in the history books and directly applicable to all.

Nick Mandel can be reached at promandel@gmail.com

NIM NAPRAPATHIC MEDICINE
Org
NIM OF NEW MEXICO

25 NAPRAPATHIC SESSIONS PER YEAR!
 Call now for your appointment.

We treat stress, aches, & pain without drugs.

2006 Botolph Rd. Suite A, Santa Fe
 nmnm.org • 505.424.8990

NO referral necessary!!! Per your SONM employee benefit, your deductible is waived for Naprapathic treatments.

ECECD Employees of the Quarter FY22 Q3

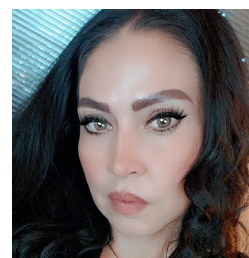
By Steven Hicks



Stephanie Crowder-Families First RN, FSEI

Stephanie is an exemplary team-player and an overall positive influence in her office and for her team. Stephanie always maintains a positive attitude and is always available to assist her team and coworkers. She takes the initiative and steps up to help when needed by not only completing her own work but by also ensuring the work of vacant positions are completed as well. Her hard work and dedication are vital to the growth of the Families First program. Thank you, Stephanie!

er. She gives 110% to her clients, providers, co-workers, and management. She goes above and beyond to provide support for her clients and her team and makes sure everyone's needs are met. She ensures she is up to date on all her casework while supporting her fellow co-workers and assisting management in completing projects as needed. She plays a vital role as a Lead EI in training and mentoring new employees. She is an incredible asset to ECECD. Thank you, Stacie!



Marie Lujan-Accountant and Auditor, A ASD

Marie Lujan is a dedicated, committed, and hardworking member of the Administrative Services Division. Marie is dependable and is always available to assist her peers in ASD. As an Accounting-Auditor, she makes anyone she is working with feel important and is always willing to drop what she's doing to assist. Not only is she a diligent worker but she also carries out her responsibilities

with a positive attitude and delivers outstanding customer service with a smile and her warm personality. Thank you, Marie, for being an outstanding ECECD employee!



Maria Padilla- Eligibility Interviewer, ECEN – Las Cruces

Maria is hard-working, dedicated, and team oriented. She is not afraid to take on extra responsibility. If her fellow coworker is out or a position in her team is temporarily vacant, Maria volunteers to take on the extra work. She also works hard to provide a positive supportive place to come to work. She comes in and decorates team members offices when it is their birthday and always welcomes newer employees and makes sure they feel like a part of the team. We all appreciate Maria's hard work and support! Thank you, Maria, for all you do!

Anthony Montano

Anthony plays a pivotal role in the support of Child Care Regulatory



and Licensing, and Background Check service areas. Anthony is responsible for the data and system support for these areas, managing the data for over 2,100 childcare provider records, including their licenses and background checks. He has developed core system functionality for these areas, including methods to incorporate childcare hours of operation, as well as a means by which to automatically indicate expired background check applications.

Anthony has provided training to hundreds of staff members and childcare providers, as well as to Department leadership and partners. Anthony continually displays high levels of responsibility, initiative, and ownership of Department interests. He is adept at analyzing business processes and developing solutions that directly improve the work of the Department. These qualities and attributes make Anthony an exceptional asset to the PRQI team, and to the Department. Thank you Anthony!



Stacie Woodward-Senior Child Care Eligibility Interviewer, ECEN – Farmington

Stacie is a dedicated employee, true teammate, and an amazing casework-



SANTAFEKIA.COM
1701 ST. MICHAEL'S DR
SANTA FE, NM 87505
505.982.1957
MONDAY-SATURDAY 9-7PM

HUGE USED CAR INVENTORY

OVER 25 CERTIFIED PREOWNED KIAs

OVER 70 OTHER USED CARS

- ▶ 164 pt rigorous inspection
- ▶ 12 mo/12,000 miles bumper to bumper protection
- ▶ 10yr or 100,000 miles power train warranty
- ▶ 10 yr unlimited mileage roadside assistance

SANTA FE KIA, WHERE WE TREAT YOU DIFFERENT







PRE-OWNED 2021 KIA K5 GT-LINE SEDAN



Price \$34,451

Mileage: 21,631 miles
Transmission: automatic
Drivetrain: FWD
Engine: 1.6L i-4
Wolf Gray Exterior
Black Interior
Stock: N22190A

2018 HONDA CR-V LX AWD SUV



Price \$25,447

Mileage: 52,491 miles
Transmission: variable
Drivetrain: All-wheel Drive
Engine: 2.4L i-4
White Diamond Pearl Exterior
Ivory Interior
Stock: N22115A

READY SET GO!



Wildfire - it can appear in an instant. Leaving you and your family only moments to get to safety.

Making sure you have 6 essentials ready and set, before you go could mean all the difference.



PEOPLE



PHOTOS



IMPORTANT PAPERS



COMPUTER



MEDICATIONS



PETS

Having these things with you could not only save a life but give you peace of mind if you are in danger of a wildfire.

New Mexico Forestry // www.emnrd.nm.gov/sfd

Department of Health Reports First Child Death of Flu Season

By Jodi McGinnis Porter



The New Mexico Department of Health (DOH) reports on April 21st the death of a four-year-old Santa Fe County girl from flu-related illness, New Mexico's first pediatric influenza death of the 2021-2022 season. Since the start of this flu season, DOH has identified 143 pneumonia and flu-related deaths.

"Our love and heartfelt prayers go out to the family during this difficult time," said Acting Department of Health Secretary, David R. Scrase, M.D. "Children younger than age 5 are at particular risk of flu complications, and the American Academy of Pediatrics advises that all children ages 6 months and older get vaccinated against the flu."

Flu hospitalization rates are higher in New Mexico, especially in children 0-4 years old. The rate of flu hospitalizations in New Mexico is more than double the national rate in this age group and is above the national average overall.

Currently in New Mexico, flu is still spreading in all regions of the state, and respiratory disease activity remains elevated. Flu seasons vary in length year-to-year, peaking most seasons between December and February, but some flu seasons can last as late as May. The percentage of visits to medical facilities for flu-like symptoms has been climbing in recent weeks, even as COVID-19-related visits have fallen to low levels.

"The flu vaccine is safe, effective and can be given alongside other routine immunizations and the COVID-19 vaccine," said Acting Department of Health Secretary, David R. Scrase, M.D.

As during all flu seasons, the Department of Health recommends everyone six months of age and older get the flu vaccine each flu season. While influenza viruses spread year-round, most of the time flu activity peaks between December and February, but activity can last as late as May. It is especially important for the following groups of people, either because they are at high risk of having serious flu-related complications, or because they live with or care for people at high risk for developing flu-related complications:

- Children younger than 5, but especially children younger than 2 years old
- Children aged 6 months through 8 years who have never been vaccinated against flu, or have an unknown vaccination history, should receive two doses of flu vaccine, administered at least 4 weeks apart
- Pregnant women (all trimesters), and up to two weeks postpartum
- People ages 50 years and older
- People of any age with medical conditions like asthma, diabetes, lung or heart disease, and those who are immunocompromised
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including healthcare personnel and caregivers of babies younger than six months
- American Indians and Alaskan Natives
- People who are morbidly obese

In addition to getting vaccinated, NMDOH also recommends certain COVID-Safe Practices that also help prevent catching or spreading flu:

- Wash your hands and your children's hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after contact with other people and before eating
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve
- Clean your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer after blowing your nose, sneezing, or coughing, even if you use a tissue
- Stay home if you have fever and/or respiratory symptoms

Ask your doctor about antiviral medicines if you seek medical care for the flu. These medicines are most effective if given within two days of your symptoms starting, but may still help even after two days. People who are sick with flu often feel some or all of these symptoms:

- Fever - though it's important to not everyone with flu will have a fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

Even if you've already had the flu this season, getting a flu shot can still help prevent getting sick again with another strain. Check with your health care provider about flu vaccines. To find out more about flu vaccination clinics throughout New Mexico, you can go to HealthMap Vaccine Finder at <https://vaccinefinder.org/> or go to the NMDOH website: <http://nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/imp/flu/>.

NMDVR Success Story: Holloman AFB is "Not Like Other Internship Sites"

By Jeff Levine



Project SEARCH interns, including Alyssa Bailey (second from left) and Adrian Alonso (far right), with their Challenge Coins. Photo courtesy: Holloman AFB

Five interns from Alamogordo and Tularosa comprise the first group to participate in Project SEARCH at Holloman Air Force Base in Otero County. Their three rotations over the course of the 2021-'22 school year include working in the lodging facility on the base—in housekeeping, reception, or maintenance—or at the fitness center, library, outdoor recreation department, or kitchen in the child development center.

Working on a military installation means the expectations are higher than with other Project SEARCH locations around the state and country, asserts Alexandra Rios of Partners for Employment at the University of New Mexico: "It's not like other internship sites." "There's a built-in sense of community, orderliness, and discipline," says Alamogordo Schools Job Skills Developer Michael Valadez. "They're getting a sense of that. They're feeling the camaraderie. They're getting a dose of how to show respect."

During a presentation from Command Chief Tom Temple in February, the interns realized the significance of participating in Project SEARCH at Holloman. Temple related the Air Force's core values of integrity, service before self, and excellence in all they do.

"In the Air Force, if you don't stand up for these values, someone's life is on the line," says Project SEARCH Instructor Lydia French. "Even on the job site, what one person does affects everybody."

Recalling the core values, 19-year-old intern Alyssa Bailey says, "I'll take them wherever I decide to work. Putting others before self. And integrity is doing what's right when no one's watching."

Temple then gave the interns the Air Force's Challenge Coin, only bestowed to those who accomplish something exceptional. He commended the group after hearing lots of positive feedback from mentors. Receiving the coin told the participants they had become part of the Air Force family. The interns appreciated that not everyone gets a coin, and they were impressed by both the physical weight and weightiness of the meaning behind it, according to Valadez.

"I was honestly surprised," intern Adrian Alonso, 18, says. "I can just feel the importance."

"It meant that kids with disabilities can learn and can go on the right path," adds Bailey. "It meant a lot to me."

As with all Project SEARCH locations, participants at Holloman AFB have a safe place to make mistakes while acquiring job skills. At the same time, they learn the importance of punctuality and how to be both mentally and physically healthy so they can put in a full day's work. French has seen remarkable growth in the maturity level of Holloman interns. "Some of them thought they could never work, that their disability would get in the way," she says. "Project SEARCH has really built their confidence in themselves."

"Before coming into this program, I didn't think I was capable of doing anything," says Alonso. "I'm more capable and have more confidence. The internships are like real jobs. They train you and work with you."

"With encouragement, I believe that I can do great things," Bailey declares, as she and the other four Project SEARCH interns prepare to graduate in late May.

For more information, visit dvr.state.nm.us or call 505-954-8500.

There are so many alternative transportation options for getting around New Mexico!

Call Santa Fe RideFinders to find out how to use them all!

505-988-RIDE (7433)



... and

Find out more about trying the buses, the train and other alternative forms of transportation

- reduce traffic congestion
- reduce use of fossil fuels
- improve air quality
- enjoy the health benefits of walking, bicycling and using mass transit

Santa Fe Trails

505-955-2001

www.takethetrails.com

Rio Metro RTD

866-795-RAIL (7245)

www.riometro.org

NMDOT Park & Ride

505-988-7433

www.nmparkandride.com

NORTH CENTRAL RTD

1-866-206-0754

www.RidetheBlueBus.com

Save money, relax, and

Enjoy the Ride! Give alternative forms of transportation a try.

A service of SFT-CSF made possible through a grant from the Federal Transit Administration in cooperation with NMDOT



New Courthouses are Underway

By Beth Wojahn

The New Mexico Judiciary is investing in communities statewide. Three new courthouses are being built.



Ruidoso, NM will soon get a new courthouse! Pictured at the groundbreaking ceremony on April 11th from Left to Right: Administrative Office of the Court's Court Operations Director Jason Clack, 12th Judicial District Judge Ellen Jesson, Lincoln County Magistrate Judge Mickie Vega, Lincoln County Magistrate Judge Katie Lund, Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Vigil, 12th Judicial District Judge Daniel Bryant, 12th Judicial District Chief Judge Angie Schneider, and AOC Director Artie Pepin.



Administrative Office of the Courts

Construction on a new courthouse in Belen, NM began with a groundbreaking ceremony on April 4, 2022. From Left to Right: State Sen. Greg Baca, Belen Councilors Frank Ortega and Yvette Padilla, Magistrate Judge John Chavez, Belen Mayor Robert Noblin, New Mexico Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Vigil, Belen Municipal Judge Keith Norwood and Councilors Danny Bernal Jr. and Steve Holdman

The new courthouse in Springer, NM will have secure holding areas for in-custody defendants, a larger multi-purpose courtroom, jury box and gallery, attorney/client rooms, staff areas, public areas and a jury deliberation room. Currently, jury trials take place at Raton Magistrate Court because of space limitations. Breaking ground on April 18, 2022: (Left to Right) State Sen. Pete Campos, State Rep. Roger Montoya, Springer Mayor Boe Lopez, 8th Judicial District Chief Judge Emilio Chavez, Springer Magistrate Court Judge Felix Peña and Supreme Court Chief Justice C. Shannon Bacon.

New Mexico Higher Education Department Awards \$100,000 to Alleviate Student Hunger

Five New Mexico colleges to receive grant funding for food pantries and campus outreach

By Stephanie Montoya

The New Mexico Higher Education Department is awarding \$100,000 to New Mexico higher education institutions for initiatives that address student hunger on college campuses statewide.

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham approved the funding last year, which will support five \$20,000 grants to New Mexico colleges and universities to establish student food pantries and services that directly impact students facing food insecurity.

"The pervasive stereotype of the 'starving student' as a rite of passage is one we need to end. Working with colleges and universities across the state, our goal is to create hunger-free campuses so that students can concentrate on their studies without the distraction of worrying about their next meal," Higher Education Deputy Secretary Patricia Trujillo said. "Assuring food security is one of the most basic ways we can let students know that our campuses are communities where they belong and where they can thrive."

According to a 2021 research report conducted by the Basic Needs Project at the University of New Mexico, one third of college students reported facing food insecurity. Over half of Native American students and 36 percent of Hispanic students reported experiencing food insecurity.

Addressing hunger in New Mexico is a priority of the Lujan Grisham administration, and this year the state is investing \$24 million across the

state via the Food, Farm and Hunger Initiative, \$1 million of which will go toward addressing the needs of college students.

"Hunger can be a secret battle for students. This investment represents an understanding of the need and we're glad that this will provide direct services to those with food scarcity issues at our college campuses. We look forward to working towards solutions and best practices for this longstanding issue," New Mexico Higher Education Department Indian Education Director Nathan Moquino said.

The grant is designed to assist colleges and universities to build essential capacity and infrastructure to create or support efforts to address issues of food insecurity for students, promote wellness, and help outreach to vulnerable students who regularly experience hunger.

The funding aims to build capacity of student food pantries and other resources on college campuses that directly help vulnerable students. The agency evaluated proposals from New Mexico public colleges and universities and awarded those who demonstrated an ongoing commitment to creating a hunger-free campus. This included establishing an on-campus food pantry or partnership with a local food bank, providing information to students about SNAP and other food programs, partnering with local farms, hosting hunger awareness events, and providing emergency assistance grants for

students.

Eastern New Mexico University – Roswell was among the colleges selected to receive project funding. A recent survey revealed that nearly 40 percent of students experienced food insecurity within the last 30 days. The branch campus will use grant funding from the agency to establish a student food pantry and is already partnering with local nonprofits to identify matching funds.

"If students are worried about where their next meal is going to come from, how can they think about math problems and essays?" said Todd DeKay, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness at Eastern New Mexico University – Roswell. "This grant will give us the foundation we need to address student food insecurity, which will help improve retention, graduation rates, and overall student wellbeing. We could not have started this project without this state funding."

The following projects at New Mexico colleges and universities were selected to receive funding:

- \$20,000 to **Doña Ana Community College** for "Together We End Hunger: Destigmatizing Hunger Among College Students at Doña Ana Community College." Funding will support various events to provide information to students on community food resources and partner with local food banks.
- \$20,000 to **Eastern New Mexico University** – Roswell for "UFO – Uplifting Food Opportunities: A Food

Pantry for ENMU-Roswell." Funding will create and sustain a campus food pantry, provide SNAP enrollment assistance, fund an annual hunger awareness event, establish partnerships with community food banks, and train campus advisors on SNAP enrollment.

- \$20,000 to **New Mexico State University** – Grants for "Feeding and Educating Students to Succeed Academically" (FESSA). The project aims to serve rural Hispanic and Native American students by providing educational opportunities and expanding capacity of the Aggie Cupboard food pantry to serve more students and include infant care, personal care items.
- \$20,000 to the **New Mexico Tech** to establish a food pantry on campus. Campus agencies will collaborate with the Socorro Storehouse, Chartwells, and the Socorro Community Food Bank to supply food and continued funding. The food pantry will follow a "shopping" model to reduce stigma surrounding food insecurity and empower students to access resources.
- \$20,000 to the **University of New Mexico – Los Alamos** to establish a campus food pantry and expand an existing professional clothing closet. Students will have free access to basic needs items including quality food, hygiene supplies, emergency need gift cards for groceries and provisions, and receive education about healthy eating and public assistance programs like SNAP and TANF.



Fostering Student Success from Cradle to Career

PED To Elevate Outdoor Learning Options

2022 legislation funded new Outdoor Learning Initiative

By Judy Robinson

By the time Earth Day 2023 rolls around, more New Mexico students will be spending time in outdoor classrooms with teachers prepared to use the natural environment as a teaching tool, the Public Education Department announced today, Earth Day 2022.

The expansion of outdoor learning will begin this summer, when the department uses a \$500,000 legislative appropriation to staff a new Outdoor Learning Program and fund grants to help schools develop or expand outdoor learning.

“Time spent outdoors reduces stress and promotes healthy lifestyles. This is true for everyone but especially for children,” said Public Education Secretary Kurt Steinhaus. “When we can combine outdoor time with hands-on learning, it’s a win-win for students academically, socially and emotionally.”

“The natural world provides a wonderful, rich learning environment that automatically allows students and teachers to apply knowledge in a meaningful way,” said Deputy Secretary Gwen Perea Warniment. The goal is broader than building classrooms in a shady spot on school grounds, although the Outdoor Learning Program supports that, too. It includes giving teachers resources and activities that promote discovery, experimentation and connection to the natural world.

“Outdoor learning can be applicable for any content area,” said Shafiq Chaudhary, interim director of PED’s Math and Science Bureau, which is implementing the Outdoor Learning Program.

For example, math students can collect and analyze data on fallen leaves, go on a geometry scavenger hunt or use the Pythagorean theorem

to study the length of shadows at different times of day. Younger kids can play “I Spy” to develop language skills while older students write poetry under a tree. Science students can learn and measure changes in the environment.

At Santo Domingo Elementary School in the Bernalillo Public Schools district, students are learning about the pueblo’s agricultural heritage in outdoor learning spaces, including a garden, greenhouse and chicken coop, with plans to add an amphitheater, classroom space and outdoor kitchen by the end of June.

“We’re really indigenizing our teaching spaces because learning for indigenous students didn’t happen within the four walls of a Western classroom,” said Lorlei Chavez, the school’s indigenous curriculum instructional coach. “We want to take indigenous students outside underneath the elements and connect them to this DNA of how we understand the world and the environment.”

The impetus for an Outdoor Learning Program began early in the pandemic with the Wild Friends Program, which provides hands-on learning about the democratic process to New Mexico students in grades 4-12. Students help draft legislation on a wildlife conservation issue and work to pass it in the New Mexico Legislature.

In fall 2020, the students voted to work on outdoor classrooms. They learned about the benefits and challenges of outdoor classrooms and created design prototypes for an outdoor classroom at their schools. They also helped draft Senate Memorial 1 encouraging the implementation of outdoor classrooms, and then testified (virtually) in support of the memorial during the 2021 legislative session.



The memorial, introduced by Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, passed the Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support on Feb. 24, 2021, launching a multi-agency task force to study outdoor learning.

“Being outside offers many benefits to students and educators, including improved physical, emotional, social, and spiritual health and wellbeing; improved academic skills, including critical thinking and problem-solving; enhanced academic achievement; increased motivation and enthusiasm to learn; and increased connections with our communities,” Hemphill said. “With the ongoing pandemic, it’s more important than ever to invest in outdoor learning spaces to take advantage of these benefits and to help ensure we can continue to educate students in the safest, healthiest environment.”

The task force met between June and October 2021, when it issued a report that recommended establishing an outdoor classroom program at the Public Education Department.

Senate Memorial 1 had widespread support from students and educators, including Environmental Education of New Mexico, a professional support network of more than 150 organizations serving more than 280,000 New Mexican children annually.

During the 2022 legislative session, Sen. Corea Hemphill, who sponsored Senate Memorial 1, introduced Senate Bill 32, which called for a \$500,000 appropriation to PED to establish the Outdoor Classroom Program. While that bill died in committee, the same amount was later attached to the General Appropriations Bill.

That funding will allow PED to hire two outdoor learning experts. Through a competitive process, the PED also will award outdoor learning grants by fall. Details are still being worked out, but grants will likely cover professional learning and curricular materials while construction of outdoor learning spaces would be considered a capital outlay project.



1% CASH BACK

Finance your Auto Loan with us, and get up to **\$500 cash back!***

New • Used • Refi

START GETTING PAID! • ziacu.org/cashbackauto



This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

*All loans are subject to credit, income, debt, and membership qualifications. Offer is valid for auto loan applications submitted through 06/30/2022 and may be changed or discontinued at any time without notice. 1.00% cash back is calculated based on the final total funded loan amount, including any ancillary products, with a maximum payout of \$500.00. Cash back will be paid after closing the loan, by check or direct deposit into the member's account. Recipient is responsible for any applicable taxes related to the cash back payment. Other restrictions and conditions may apply; please call Zia Credit Union at 800-392-7629 for complete details.

New Mexico Trapping Statute Goes into Effect April 1

By Tristanna Bickford

Legislation passed in 2021 making trapping on public lands illegal, with few exceptions, goes into effect this Friday, April 1. This new statute, titled the Wildlife Conservation and Public Safety Act (17-11-1 through 17-11-5 NMSA), makes the use of “a trap, snare or wildlife poison for the purposes of capturing, injuring or killing an animal on public land...” unlawful.

Public land is defined as “state-owned land, state-leased land, lands held in trust by the state, lands administered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the United States Forest Service, the Federal Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the United States Department of Defense, State Parks and any county or municipality...” Violators of the statute are guilty of a misdemeanor and each trap, snare or poison application constitutes a single violation of the Act. Penalties under the Act are cumulative to any other penalties provided by law and the court may also consider appropriate restitution to a state agency that incurs costs in enforcing the Act.

The entirety of the Wildlife Conservation and Public Safety Act, including exceptions to the Act, can be found online at NMOneSource.com under Chapter 17 Game and Fish and Outdoor Recreation Article 11.

Anyone with information on possible wildlife crimes is encouraged to call Operation Game Thief at 1-800-432-4263. Callers can remain anonymous and may be eligible for rewards if information leads to charges being filed.



New Mexico Adopts Nationally Leading Oil And Gas Emissions Rule

Regulations will eliminate hundreds of millions of pounds of emissions annually

By Matthew Maez



After two and half years of collaborative public and stakeholder engagement, the Environmental Improvement Board (EIB) adopted new air quality rules that will eliminate hundreds of millions of pounds of harmful emissions annually from oil and gas operations in New Mexico. The new rule will improve air quality for New Mexicans by establishing innovative and actionable regulations to curb the formation of ground-level ozone.

“Today marks the fulfillment of a promise I made to New Mexicans – to create strong, enforceable regulations in the oil and gas sector that will result in cleaner, healthier air in our communities,” said Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham. “This is a momentous step forward in achieving our goals of lowering emissions and improving air quality. New Mexicans can be proud of the fact that we are leading the nation by implementing rules that protect our families and their environment.”

The new rule will reduce harmful emissions of ozone precursor pollutants – volatile organic compounds and oxides of nitrogen – by approximately 260 million pounds annually, and will have the co-benefit of reducing methane emissions by over 851 million pounds annually. Starting this summer, compliance obligations for new and existing oil and gas operations in New Mexico counties with high ozone levels will begin to take effect. These counties are Chaves, Doña Ana, Eddy, Lea, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, San Juan, and Valencia counties.

The American Lung Association describes breathing ozone as a “sunburn to the lungs” that can cause breathing issues, asthma attacks, as well as respiratory and cardiovascular attacks. A secondary benefit of the rule is that it reduces greenhouse gases which contribute to climate change.

“This rule is an enormous win for communities impacted by unhealthy air quality caused by oil and gas operations,” said NMED Cabinet Secretary James Kenney. “Over the next few months, we will begin robust and innovative compliance assurance activities to ensure oil and gas operations are adhering to these new requirements.”

As adopted, the new rule is more protective of public health and the environment than current federal requirements — and enables New Mexico to lead the nation as a model in smart regulation. The new rule allows industry to use and develop cutting-edge technology, including the use of fuel cells which convert air emissions to electricity as opposed to the wasteful practice of flaring. The new rule is technology neutral to allow for innovation, like the use of satellites, air ships, drones, and fence-line monitoring to comply with leak detection provisions for equipment.

The new rule sets foundational requirements for all oil and gas operators to calculate emission rates and have those calculations certified by a qualified engineer, perform monthly checks for leaks and fix them within 15 days, and maintain records to demonstrate continuous compliance. Building upon the foundational requirements are strict standards for equipment and processes that emit larger quantities of pollution.

The new rule establishes emission reduction requirements for equipment including storage vessels, compressors, turbines, heaters, engines, dehydrators, pneumatic devices, produced water management units, and more. The new rule also establishes emission reduction requirements for processes such as well workovers, hydrocarbon liquid transfers, liquids unloading, pig launching and receiving, and more.

“The standards finalized today represent historic progress for the health and safety of communities across New Mexico. Gov. Lujan Grisham’s administration is showing the ambition needed to stop unchecked oil and gas pollution, increase energy security, protect public health and tackle the climate crisis,” said Jon Goldstein, Senior Director of Regulatory & Legislative Affairs of the Environmental Defense Fund. “NMED’s rules, which address out-sized emissions from smaller, leak-prone wells and protect those living closest to development with more frequent inspections to find and fix leaks, offer a powerful example for the EPA to build on as it advances nationwide methane protections.”

The new rule was considered by the seven-member New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board. NMED anticipates the rule will go into effect in summer 2022.

**MARISCOS
COSTA AZUL**

Mexican Style Seafood Cuisine

**Happy
Mother's
Day!**

**FRESH & HEALTHY
MEXICAN FOOD**

**2875 Cerrillos Rd.
~ Santa Fe ~
Across from Jackalope**

505.473-4594

www.MariscosCostaAzul.com

**11 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day
but CLOSED TUESDAYS**

Seafood Treats

Red Snapper

15% OFF Total Bill*

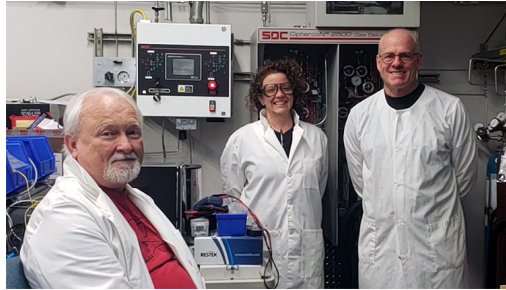
Lunch or Dinner - alcoholic beverages included, any day of the week!

*WITH THIS COUPON. Not valid with any other discounts or specials. Must present coupon at time of purchase. Offer expires 6/30/2022.

EDD Awards 8 Science & Technology Grants

By Bruce Krasnow

New Mexico Economic Development Department Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes announced that eight New Mexico high-growth-potential companies were awarded Science & Technology Business Start Up Grants at \$25,000 each for a total of \$200,000.



The team at Molten Salt Solutions.



Allerpops product image.

Science & Technology Business Start Up Grants are available to New Mexico-based for-profit science and technology companies with fewer than 50 employees. Eligible businesses must work in one of the following fields: aerospace, biosciences, cybersecurity, intelligent manufacturing, and sustainable and green energy. The grant specifically targets high-growth potential companies that provide a unique product or service, have a clear and compelling business proposition, demonstrate

a scalable product and business model, have the potential to create jobs in New Mexico and/or garner private investment, and can provide economic benefit to the state greater than the award amount.

"I'm so impressed with the level of ingenuity coming out of our state," Secretary Keyes said. "The work these companies do here ripples through the world to make a better, safer, and healthier future for all. New Mexico State is proud to partner with these science and technology companies to grow and create the jobs and innovative research that propels us to the forefront of innovation."

The Office of Science and Technology (OST), housed within the New Mexico Economic Development Department (EDD), and the Technology Research Collaborative (TRC) board review all of the applications and choose the annual awardees. This round they reviewed more than 70 applications in an incredibly competitive field, according to OST Director Alex Greenberg. Final recommendations were made to EDD leadership by the TRC Board based on utility of the grant award and the potential for community and economic impact in New Mexico.

The eight companies receiving science and technology grants are:

- **T-Neuro Pharma** (Albuquerque) - T-NeuroPharma was formed to develop a novel companion biomarker/therapeutic for Alzheimer's Disease by taking a new approach to Alzheimer's diagnosis and treatment.
- **K&K Skin Products** (Albuquerque) - K&K Skin Products is a consumer company with a biotech twist.
- **STEM Boomerang** (Albuquerque) - STEM Boomerang is a workforce recruitment platform that provides a warm handshake between employers and the New Mexico graduates looking for career opportunities in the state.
- **Nob Hill Therapeutics, Inc.** (NHT) (Albuquerque) - NHT is commercializing a technology from UNM, an inhaled dry powder drug delivery device, in order to create effective inhalation therapies to address lower respiratory tract infections - the fifth leading overall cause of death worldwide - and other deadly lung diseases
- **Molten Salt Solutions** (Santa Fe) - Molten Salt Solutions is developing technology that will be needed by the next generation of nuclear reactors, including isotope separation methods and salt synthesis methods, with grant funding and in collaborations with Los Alamos National Laboratory.
- **Neurinsight LLC** (Albuquerque) - Neurinsight was established in 2012 by Dr. Posse to improve patient healthcare outcomes by providing individualized, highly specific, and sensitive point-of-care clinical neuroimaging solutions to guide brain surgery at an affordable cost.
- **AllerPops Corp.** (Los Alamos) - AllerPops is dedicated to relieving allergies for longer periods of time, removing the need for daily shots or pills, by treating the root cause of airborne allergies.
- **Orch Tech LLC** (Ohkay Owingeh) - ORC Tech is advancing the wireless industry through a portable, lightweight device to boost incoming signals and improve local connections for cell phones, laptops, satellite, and Wi-Fi internet receivers without the need for power plugs, cables, or batteries.

County Manager Announces Retirement

By Camelina Hart

County Manager, Katherine Miller, announced her retirement at the April 12, 2022, Board of County Commissioners meeting after serving Santa Fe County as manager for nearly 12 years. In her announcement, Manager Miller thanked the staff and elected officials of the County.



"The County leadership and their staff have been so professional, dedicated, compassionate, and frankly just extraordinary. I have been so very fortunate to be able to call myself their manager, their leader. I will miss all of them individually and collectively; I am so proud to have been a part of their team."

She offered special thanks to the Board of County Commissioners "for entrusting and allowing me to work with such an amazing county: Santa Fe County. Without your support, the successful accomplishments would not have been possible." As the Commissioners thanked her and wished her well, they echoed the sentiment, "the County of Santa Fe is a better place because of your service."

Manager Miller has played a critical role in the development and success of the County. Her leadership and contributions have built a strong foundation for the future of Santa Fe County. Under Manager Miller's leadership, the County has achieved financial stability with healthy reserves, a AAA Bond Rating, and instituted policies that ensure financial sustainability. Manager Miller led the county through the COVID-19 pandemic by developing and implementing a successful COVID Action Plan, including effectively managing \$14,000,000 of CARES Act funding; distributing \$4,000,000 in small business grants, and \$2,000,000 in housing assistance.

Prior to her tenure as Manager, Ms. Miller served as Cabinet Secretary for the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Executive Director of the NM Mortgage Finance Authority, Deputy Chief of Staff of Policy in the Office of Governor Bill Richardson, and Finance Director and Procurement Manager for Santa Fe County.

The Board of County Commissioners also announced their selection of County Attorney, Greg Shaffer, as the new County Manager.

"I'm truly honored and humbled to be entrusted with this position. Over the last 11.6 years, County Manager Miller has worked with current and former County Commissioners to instill in the County a culture of professional and ethical public service driven by a set of established core values. It's that very strong foundation that I believe makes this such a welcoming opportunity. Building on that foundation, I look forward to working with you, other elected officials, and all of the dedicated team members of the County to achieve the County's objectives and meet whatever challenges come our way."

Mr. Shaffer has previously served Santa Fe County in the roles of Assistant County Attorney, Human Resources and Risk Management Director, and Interim Deputy County Manager. Mr. Shaffer worked as a judge in the First Judicial District Court, general counsel for the state Department of Finance and Administration, and Deputy Chief Counsel for the state Taxation and Revenue Department. Shaffer received his bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University and his juris doctorate at New York University School of Law in New York.



Find your way to savings.

Belinda Maez-Ferrero, Agent
2641 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Bus: 505-471-1313
belinda.ferrero.le3j@statefarm.com

Save an average of \$500*

Stop here for great rates with America's #1 car insurance company**. Give me a call today.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

State Farm
statefarm.com®

*Annual average per household savings based on 2012 national survey of new policyholders who reported savings by switching to State Farm.

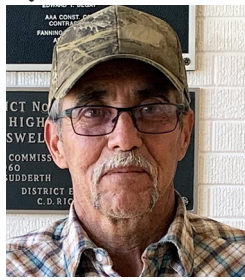
**Based on A.M. Best written premium.

1005000.1

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company - Bloomington, IL

NMDOT D2 April Employee Recognition

By Manon Arnett



Employee of the Month— Clifford Naranjo, Special Crews Highway Maintainer Advanced

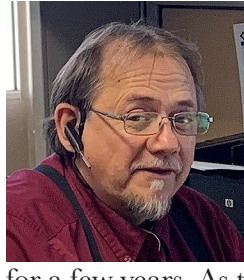
Clifford Naranjo has been with the New Mexico Department of Transportation for over twenty years. He is part of the chip seal crew that repairs asphalt surfaces throughout southeast New Mexico. He also plows snow, fills roadway cracks, flags and directs traffic, sets up traffic signs, hauls materials and supplies, mows, clears brush, removes trash from roadways, and ditches, repairs and replaces road signs and guard rail, and so much more. Clifford operates all types of equipment such as truck-mounted snowplows, loaders, dump trucks, pickups, tractor-mounted mowers, chain saws, and various other types of equipment. He does excellent work, and the District is proud to recognize



Employee of the Month – Monica Serrano, Construction Audit Engineering Technician

Monica Serrano has been with the New Mexico Department of Transportation for nearly 23 years. She started her career in accounting; later was promoted to audit as an engineering technician, where she reviews plans, budgets, and construction laws, to ensure the state is fiscally responsible for our highway assets. She reviews construction documentation and closes out projects with efficiency and professionalism. Monica does fantastic work, sets high standards, and works hard for her team. NMDOT District Two is proud to recognize Monica for her wonderful work.

Supervisor of the Month— Moises Garcia, Purchasing Supervisor



Supervisor of the Month— Moises Garcia, Purchasing Supervisor

Moises Garcia has been with the New Mexico Department of Transportation District Two for a few years. As the purchasing supervisor, he oversees the day-to-day operations of the purchasing section for all divisions within the region. Moises reviews and accepts bids, buying goods and services as needed. He regularly deals with a variety of vendors through various forms of correspondence. As a purchasing agent for the government, he must follow strict laws and regulations to avoid any impropriety. He is informative, expedites information quickly, and works exceptionally well with his co-workers. Moises has a great work ethic making him an asset to our team.

Crew of the Month - Service Center (Robert Kinsey (Supervisor) and Fermin Lee Gomez)

The District Two Service Center



has surpassed the expected level of customer service by management. The crew is outstanding in helping, repairing, and servicing department vehicles. This crew has saved the department thousands of dollars by doing repair work to vehicles in-house. They assure that the motor pool vehicles are in top condition to ensure safe travel to all who check out a state vehicle. Recently they helped the IT staff from Santa Fe by repairing a blown tire. They exemplify service with a smile and can-do attitude. The Service Center is doing an excellent job and is deserving of this recognition.

Bring your coupons!

3257 CERRILLOS ROAD
SANTA FE

"45 Years Strong and Counting"

TWO CAN DINE

Two
2 Pc. Fish & Mores **\$9.99**

Offer expires 6/12/22. Valid only at Cerrillos Road location. Not valid with any other coupon or discount. Sales tax not included.

FAMILY FEAST

4 Batter-Dipped Fish Fillets,
4 Pc. Chicken, Crispy Fries,
Cole Slaw & Hushpuppies for Four **\$14.99**

Offer expires 6/12/22. Valid only at Cerrillos Road location. Not valid with any other coupon or discount. Sales tax not included.

TWO CAN DINE

Two
2 Pc. Fish & Mores **\$9.99**

Offer expires 6/12/22. Valid only at Cerrillos Road location. Not valid with any other coupon or discount. Sales tax not included.

FAMILY FEAST

4 Batter-Dipped Fish Fillets,
4 Pc. Chicken, Crispy Fries,
Cole Slaw & Hushpuppies for Four **\$14.99**

Offer expires 6/12/22. Valid only at Cerrillos Road location. Not valid with any other coupon or discount. Sales tax not included.

ENCHANTMENT DENTAL, PC.

Donna Kidby, DDS

www.enchantmentdental.com

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

SATURDAY APPOINTMENTS

MOST INSURANCE ACCEPTED

1442-A St. Francis Drive
988-2178

PARK AVENUE CLEANERS, LLC

720 St. Michaels Dr., Ste K, Santa Fe
Plaza Del Sol Shopping Center

438-2524

Tues-Fri 8am-4pm
& Sat 9am-2pm

LOW COST DRY CLEANING • LAUNDRY

Full Service Dry Cleaning
EVERYDAY PRE-PAID PRICE
\$6 Plus Tax
(Excludes formals & leather)

Any Garment Pre-spotted, Cleaned & Pressed

NEXT DAY SERVICE*
*except Friday & Saturday

Alterations Available
Prices subject to change

Group of 10 Garments
(DRY CLEANING ONLY)
PRE-PAID \$50 Plus Tax
(REG. \$70)

Wild Population of Mexican Wolves Continues to Experience Growth with a Minimum of 196 Wolves Recorded

By **Tristanna Bickford**

The wild population of Mexican wolves in the United States continued to grow in 2021. According to the 2021 annual count, the U.S. population of Mexican wolves has increased by 5 percent since the previous year, raising the total number of wolves in the wild to a minimum of 196 animals. This marks the sixth consecutive year of growth in the wild population.



From November 2021 through February 2022, the Interagency Field Team (IFT) conducted ground and aerial counts of Mexican wolves in Arizona and New Mexico. According to the IFT, the population is distributed with 112 wolves in New Mexico and 84 in Arizona. In 2020, the team documented a minimum of 186 wolves. The slower growth in 2021 is attributed to low pup recruitment in the wild population.

“We are happy to see the wild population of Mexican wolves continue to grow year after year,” said Brady McGee, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator. “The Service and our partners remain focused on recovery through improving the genetic health of the wild population and reducing threats, while also working to minimize conflicts with livestock.”

Among the 2021 findings:

- A minimum of 45 packs (including new pairs) were documented at the end of 2021: 28 in New Mexico and 17 in Arizona. A wolf pack is defined as two or more wolves that maintain an established territory.
- A minimum of 144 pups were born in 2021, with at least 56 surviving until the end of the year (a 38 percent survival rate). The average survival of Mexican wolf pups in their first year is around 50 percent.
- The IFT recorded a minimum of 25 breeding pairs (13 in New Mexico, 12 in Arizona) with pups in 2021. By comparison, there were an estimated 20 breeding pairs in 2020. A breeding pair is defined as a pack that consists of an adult male and female and at least one pup of the year surviving through December 31.
- There were 92 collared wolves in the wild at the end of the year, which is nearly 50 percent of the wild population. These radio collars use satellite technology to accurately record wolf locations on a frequent basis. Biologists on the IFT use this information to gain timely information about wolf behavior in the wild and assist with management of the wild population.
- The IFT documented 25 mortalities in the wild population of Mexican wolves in 2021, which is similar to the mortality rate in 2019 and 2020.
- Mexico celebrated its 10th anniversary of releasing wolves to the wild and reported at least 40 wolves in the wild at the end of 2021. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service worked with Mexico to release four adult wolves into Mexico in 2021.

“Overall wildlife populations had a hard year with low precipitation and little winter snowpack last year. I am encouraged by the increase in breeding pairs and the number of packs present. These measures continue to increase and bode well for future recovery for the Mexican wolf,” said Jim deVos, Arizona Game and Fish Department Mexican wolf coordinator.

In 2021, the IFT placed a record 22 captive-born pups into seven wild dens (a process called “cross fostering”) to boost the genetic diversity in the wild population. These cross-fostered pups are included in the minimum of 144 pups recorded for the year. The IFT has since captured and collared two of these pups and will continue efforts in 2022 to document others that may have survived. With these newly collared pups, the known number of fostered wolves alive is 14.

The Mexican wolf is the rarest subspecies of gray wolf in North America. It is listed separately from the gray wolf as an endangered subspecies under the federal Endangered Species Act. In 1977, the Service and many partners initiated efforts to conserve the subspecies by developing a bi-national captive breeding program with the seven remaining Mexican wolves in existence. Approximately 380 Mexican wolves are currently maintained in more than 60 facilities throughout the United States and Mexico.

Partners in Mexican wolf recovery in the United States include the Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service.

For more information on the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program, visit the Mexican wolf website (www.fws.gov/southwest/es/mexicanwolf) or visit the Arizona Game and Fish Department website on wolves (www.azgfd.gov/wolf).

Where in New Mexico is Dave?

Can you identify the location of this picture? If so, you may be a winner of \$25 Gift certificate from **Joe's Dining**, 2801 Rodeo Rd.



photo credit Dave

Please submit the photo location to rroundhouse@gmail.com with the email title of *Photo Contest*. All correct entries will be placed into a drawing to select a winner. Entries must be submitted by June 3, 2022. Look in June's 'Round The Roundhouse for the winning announcement along with another photo contest to enter. Good luck!

Congratulations to the April's winner, Angelica Trujillo, NMDOT. Her name was selected in the drawing of correct entries. April's photo of Ethyl the whale is located at Santa Fe Community College. Bon Appetit!



Joe's
dining

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner
and Sunday Brunch
Patio & Take-out

Take your Mom out to
the BEST Brunch in town!



Locally sourced
European influenced
and utterly delicious
American comfort food

2901 Rodeo Rd/Carlos Ray Santa Fe, NM 87507
Open Tues-Sat 8am-8pm & Sunday 8am-2:30pm
(505) 471-3800 - www.JoesDining.com

Governor, Rail Runner Announce 75% Fare Reduction

By Nora Sackett

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and the New Mexico Rail Runner Express announced on Friday that the state and train operators have partnered to cut train fares by 75% through the end of July, increasing affordability for commuters and travelers as gas prices remain high across the country.



Beginning Monday, April 18, all one-way, day pass, and monthly pass Rail Runner fares will be reduced by 75%. The Rio Metro Regional Transit District will shift operational costs to cover 50% of the fare reduction – the remaining 25% reduction will be covered by reimbursement funding from the New Mexico Department of Transportation. The reduced prices will remain in place through at least July 31. Please find additional temporary fare prices attached.

“We are using every available tool in the state’s toolkit to deliver economic relief to New Mexicans,” said Gov. Lujan Grisham. “Reducing public transportation costs for the Rail Runner provides commuters with another affordable option while gas prices remain high. My thanks to Rio Metro and NMDOT for partnering to make this support for New Mexicans a reality.”

“Daily ridership on the Rail Runner is about 60% of pre pandemic ridership levels”, said Terry Doyle, Director of Rio Metro Regional Transit District. “Now with more people returning to work and gas prices at an all-time high, we’re hoping that this reduced fare promotion encourages many to get back on the train, and also attracts those who have never commuted by rail to give it a try.”

“We’ve been so focused on providing safe travel as we’ve navigated through the pandemic, that I think sometimes we forget how cost-effective the Rail Runner is – covering 100-miles of territory right through the heart of central New Mexico 7-days a week”, said Dewey V. Cave, Executive Director of the Mid-Region Council of Governments. “Now, train passengers can get even more bang for their buck these next two months – whether it’s for their work commute or for travel and leisure – the Rail Runner remains a safe, convenient, and affordable choice.”

For more details, visit www.riometro.org – Rio Metro Customer Service representatives are available at 866-795-7245 and 505-245-RAIL (7245) from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on weekends.

| Full Fares (temporary) | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Zones | One-Way Trip | Day Pass | Monthly Pass | Annual Pass |
| 1 Zone | \$0.50 | \$0.75 (\$0.50 online) | \$9.75 (\$7.25 online) | \$385 (\$375 online) |
| 2 Zones | \$0.75 | \$1.00 (\$0.75 online) | \$13.75 (\$11.25 online) | \$550 (\$540 online) |
| 3 Zones | \$1.25 | \$1.50 (\$1.25 online) | \$18.00 (\$15.50 online) | \$715 (\$705 online) |
| 4 Zones | \$2.00 | \$2.25 (\$2.00 online) | \$26.25 (\$23.75 online) | \$1,045 (\$1,035 online) |
| 5 Zones | \$2.25 | \$2.50 (\$2.25 online) | \$27.50 (\$25.00 online) | \$1,100 (\$1,090 online) |
| 6 Zones | \$2.50 | \$2.75 (\$2.50 online) | \$30.25 (\$27.75 online) | \$1,210 (\$1,200 online) |

| Reduced Fares (temporary) | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Zones | One-Way Trip | Day Pass | Monthly Pass | Annual Pass |
| 1 Zone | \$0.25 | \$0.50 (\$0.25 online) | \$4.75 (\$2.25 online) | \$187 (\$177 online) |
| 2 Zones | \$0.25 | \$0.50 (\$0.25 online) | \$7.00 (\$4.50 online) | \$275 (\$265 online) |
| 3 Zones | \$0.50 | \$0.75 (\$0.50 online) | \$9.00 (\$6.50 online) | \$352 (\$342 online) |
| 4 Zones | \$1.00 | \$1.50 (\$1.25 online) | \$13.00 (\$10.50 online) | \$517 (\$507 online) |
| 5 Zones | \$1.00 | \$1.75 (\$1.50 online) | \$13.75 (\$11.25 online) | \$550 (\$540 online) |
| 6 Zones | \$1.25 | \$2.00 (\$1.75 online) | \$15.25 (\$12.75 online) | \$605 (\$595 online) |

Grant Funding Available for New Mexico Organic Operations

New Mexico Organic Farming Conference to award grants

By Kristi Garcia

Educational grant opportunities are now being offered to New Mexico organic producers through the New Mexico Organic Farming Conference (NMOFC). This opportunity comes in lieu of the traditional conference, which is no longer being offered. Instead, organic producers may apply to receive grant scholarships. These funds will be distributed in an effort to support educational opportunities and advance organic production knowledge and education through conference or workshop attendance.



This organic chile operation is one of the many that may be found in New Mexico (Photo credit: New Mexico Organic Farming Conference)

While the conference is not being offered in 2022, New Mexico Organic Farming Conference committee member Sage Faulkner said it’s still important that organic producers in the state are granted educational and informational opportunities.

“I think it is really important that the organic farmers of New Mexico continue to network and look at new and exciting ideas in the organic production realm,” said Faulkner, on behalf of the NMOFC committee. “The committee is dedicated to ensuring a continuing successful organic community, and these grants will hopefully provide some meaningful opportunities for organic producers in our industry.”

Up to 18 scholarships will be granted to separate applicants, at up to \$1,500 per applicant. Awards will be granted to applicants no more than one time per year, however, more than one applicant may come from a singular organic-producing farm. Scholarship funds are only applicable for organic educational programs in the continental U.S. Funding may be used for both in-person and virtual events. NMOFC committee members and their families are not eligible for funding.

If you are interested in applying for a grant scholarship to fund an organic educational program, please email NMOFC@mail.com to request an application. Applications are reviewed monthly by the NMOFC committee and will be accepted and reviewed until all funding is allocated and distributed.

The New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) also has a number of organic program resources available to producers in the state. NMDA staff is dedicated to ongoing organic education, support and promotion of all new and continuing New Mexico organic operations. To schedule a consultation or learn more about organic operations within the state, visit the Organic Program page on the NMDA website. <https://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/nmda-homepage/divisions/marketing/organic-program/>

Lunch Buddy Special



2 Lunch Specials for \$12

1 slice + 1 topping + 1 side salad + 1 fountain soda

Dine in only. Must have 2 people present with coupon to redeem.

Expires: June 30, 2022

PIZZAS • SALADS • SOUPS • BEER

Voted #1 Best Pizza in Best of Santa Fe

Open Wed-Sun 11:30am - 8:30pm • Fri & Sat 11:30am - 9pm



Patio Now Open!!

1807 2nd St. #1 • 505-955-9055 • www.backroadpizza.com



2 Free Toppings on any size pizza

Expires: June 30, 2022

Rust Movie Productions Issued 'Willful' Citation For Halyna Hutchins' Avoidable Death On Set

Rust Movie Productions, LLC receives maximum citation for plain indifference to recognized hazards associated with use of firearms on set
By Matthew Maez

The New Mexico Environment Department's Occupational Health and Safety Bureau (OHSB) on April 20th released the results of its investigation into the workplace fatality that occurred on the set of "Rust" on Oct. 21, 2021. The report concludes that Rust Movie Productions, LLC management knew that firearm safety procedures were not being followed on set and demonstrated plain indifference to employee safety by failing to review work practices and take corrective action.

Rust Movie Productions, LLC was issued a Willful-Serious citation that includes a \$136,793 civil penalty. This is the highest level of citation and maximum fine allowable by state law in New Mexico. Rust Movie Productions, LLC was cited for the plain indifference to the recognized hazards associated with the use of firearms on set that resulted in a fatality, severe injury, and unsafe working conditions.



While the film industry has clear national guidelines for firearms safety, Rust Movie Productions, LLC failed to follow these guidelines or take other effective measures to protect workers. Rust Movie Productions, LLC's documents indicate that it would follow the Industry Wide Labor-Management Safety Committee's Safety Bulletin #1, "Recommendations for Safety With Firearms and Use of 'Blank Ammunition.'" but failed to adhere to these guidelines on set. The guidelines require live ammunition "never to be used nor brought onto any studio lot or stage," that safety meetings take place every day when firearms are being handled, and that employees "refrain from pointing a firearm at anyone" except after consultation with the Property Master, Armorer or other safety representative, such as the First Assistant Director. By failing to follow these practices, an avoidable loss of life occurred.

"Our investigation found that this tragic incident never would have happened if Rust Movie Productions, LLC had followed national film industry standards for firearm safety," said Environment Cabinet Secretary James Kenney. "This is a complete failure of the employer to follow recognized national protocols that keep employees safe."

OHSB administers the Occupational Safety and Health Administration program in the State of New Mexico. This civil investigation was conducted pursuant to 50-9-17 NMSA, which requires OHSB to issue a citation within six months following the occurrence of any violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act or rules. OHSB's authority is to evaluate actions of the employer to determine if the Act was violated. The Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office and Santa Fe County District Attorney are conducting independent investigations into the fatality. The criminal investigation is ongoing and unrelated to today's citation.

Under federal requirements, Rust Movie Productions, LLC has 15 business days after receiving the citation to either pay the penalty and provide OHSB with certification of corrective action, or to contest the citation with the Occupational Health and Safety Review Commission. Should the production of this film resume in the future, Rust Movie Productions, LLC is required to abate the violations referred to in this citation before resuming operations.

"Employees should speak up about unsafe workplace conditions or report them anonymously to us," said OHSB Bureau Chief Robert Genoway. "As a reminder, it is illegal for any employer to retaliate against any employee who alleges a workplace safety violation."

Employees in New Mexico can report a workplace health and safety concern by using our online form, <https://www.env.nm.gov/general/re-report-an-environmental-issue-or-incident/> or sending the complaint via email at complaints.osha@state.nm.us. You can also report workplace safety concerns by calling 505-476-8700 (or toll-free at 1-877-610-6742). An employee can request that their identity remain confidential.

The investigation encompassed 1,560 hours of staff time, 14 interviews, and review of 566 documents.

Governor Urges Local Restrictions on Fireworks due to Wildfires, Drought Conditions

By Nora Sackett

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on April 25th signed an executive order urging New Mexico municipalities and counties to ban the retail sale of fireworks in their communities. The request for additional preventative action comes as numerous wildfires burn throughout New Mexico and severe drought conditions persist across the state. The executive order is attached.



Photo Credit: Patti Morgan

While state statute does not enable the executive to implement a state-wide ban on fireworks, the executive order follows the implementation of statewide fire restrictions prohibiting fireworks, outdoor smoking, campfires and open burning for all non-municipal, non-federal and non-tribal lands.

"Fire conditions across New Mexico remain extremely dangerous – it's essential that we mitigate potential wildfires by removing as much risk as possible," said Gov. Lujan Grisham. "While many of us like to celebrate with fireworks, no momentary display is worth causing a wildfire that could threaten the lives and property of your neighbors."

Strong winds, dry fuels and low humidity around the state has resulted in over 160,000 acres across New Mexico burning in recent weeks. According to the United States Drought Monitor, over 70% of New Mexico is experiencing extreme to exceptional drought conditions, with 93% of the state experiencing at least severe drought conditions. Multiple counties and tribal nations across New Mexico have recently implemented burn bans, in addition to federal authorities imposing Stage I and Stage II fires restrictions on federal lands throughout the state.

DUNKIN' delicious coupons!

1085 St. Francis Drive
(at Cordova)
983-2090

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Mango Pineapple Refresher med. \$3.00</p> | Limit one coupon per customer per visit. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. No substitutions allowed. No cash refunds. Void if copied or transferred. Consumer must pay applicable tax. May not be combined with any other coupon, discount promotion combo or value meal. Coupon may not be reproduced, copied, purchased, traded, or sold. Internet distribution strictly prohibited. Expires 6/12/22 | |
| <p>Cake Batter Signature Ice Latte \$3.00</p> | Limit one coupon per customer per visit. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. No substitutions allowed. No cash refunds. Void if copied or transferred. Consumer must pay applicable tax. May not be combined with any other coupon, discount promotion combo or value meal. Coupon may not be reproduced, copied, purchased, traded, or sold. Internet distribution strictly prohibited. Expires 6/12/22 | |
| <p>Butter Pecan Ice Coffee med \$3.00</p> | Limit one coupon per customer per visit. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. No substitutions allowed. No cash refunds. Void if copied or transferred. Consumer must pay applicable tax. May not be combined with any other coupon, discount promotion combo or value meal. Coupon may not be reproduced, copied, purchased, traded, or sold. Internet distribution strictly prohibited. Expires 6/12/22 | |
| <p>New Cornbread Donut \$1.29</p> | Limit one coupon per customer per visit. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. No substitutions allowed. No cash refunds. Void if copied or transferred. Consumer must pay applicable tax. May not be combined with any other coupon, discount promotion combo or value meal. Coupon may not be reproduced, copied, purchased, traded, or sold. Internet distribution strictly prohibited. Expires 6/12/22 | |



Home Grown Auto Loans

New car, used car, family car, dream car; we've got an auto loan for you. Enjoy no car payments for 90 days, \$250 cash, and some of the best rates you'll find in New Mexico. From Las Vegas to Belen, and everywhere around and in between, we understand your auto loan needs because we're from the same place you are.

For every \$1,000 financed, State ECU will donate \$1 to UNM Children's Hospital, New Mexico's only Children's Miracle Network Hospital!⁴

90 Days No Payments²

\$250 Cash³

Rates as low as 2.24% APR¹

Entered to Win Additional \$200⁵

Apply in-branch or online today!

800.983.7328 | SECUNM.ORG



¹Floor rate of 2.24% APR (Annual Percentage Rate) max term 84 months.
²The first month's payment may reflect a smaller or zero principal reduction due to the number of days of interest accrued from the closing date to the first payment date. ³Loan must be active for a minimum of 12 months. New money only, minimum of \$10,000. Qualifications may apply, visit www.secunm.org/autoloan for more details. On Approved Credit. Apply in branch or online. Expires August 31, 2022. ⁴All proceeds benefit the Children's Miracle Network. Donation cap is \$25,000, or the equivalent of 25 Million in funded promotional auto loans. ⁵Terms and qualifications may apply. Visit secunm.org for more information.



Your Children's Miracle Network Hospital 



LOCAL CONFIDENCE