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MARCH 14, 2024

## Town Council Considers Adding a Baby Box

*Bernalillo will be 8th location in NM to adopt box for infant surrender*

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

The Bernalillo Town Council took a step towards installing a babybox at their March 12 meeting by providing mothers in crisis with an anonymous avenue to surrender their infants.

The council started discussions on an ordinance to adopt Safe Haven Baby Box procedures, hoping to become the eighth municipality in the state with a baby box. Safe Haven Baby Boxes is a non-profit organization offering a secure and legal method for parents to surrender their infants by installing baby boxes in secure locations. The organization was founded by Monica Kelsey in 2015, who was abandoned as an infant.

Last year, Bernalillo Fire and Rescue Lt. Manuel Terrazas and Firefighter Richard Maestas, along with the Local 5334 president of the International Association of Fire Fighters, spearheaded a proposal for a baby box in the town. They submitted a funding application with the help of Bernalillo Mayor Jack Torres and Chief Michael Legendre, which was approved by the state.

"I just like to extend my gratitude to Firefighter Maestas and Lt. Terrazas for all of their hard work and efforts in getting us through baby box funding," said Legendre.



(Courtesy Wikimedia)

"Without their vision, we wouldn't have this resource for the community and the surrounding communities."

In 2022, state legislators allocated \$330,000, enough funding to build one baby box in each of the 33 counties in New Mexico. The town secured \$10,000 in state funding for the project.

Legendre said he was told the baby box would cost between \$16,000 to \$20,000, with most of the excess costs coming from fundraising and donations. Safe Haven has said it will contribute significantly to fundraising efforts and social media outreach.

The Safe Haven Baby Box will be installed at the Bernalillo Fire Station, which is on the south side of the Town Hall at 829 Camino Del Pueblo and will be integrated into the exterior wall, allowing discreet surrendering.

According to the Safe Haven Baby Boxes YouTube page, once the infant is placed in the environmentally controlled bassinet which is designed for swift removal by firefighters. The box also automatically locks and then an orange bag containing resources for parent(s) is dispensed, while a silent alarm notifies firefighters after 60 seconds.

According to Legendre, there will also be a communication button available to allow direct contact with the firefighters on duty if desired.

The baby box is designed so that if the parent(s) want to remain anonymous they can. However, according to KOB-TV, once an infant is surrendered, CYFD is legally obligated by state law to investigate and allow the family to reconsider.

According to the proposed

## Clerks Detail Costs and Turnout of The 2024 Local Elections

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

A week after the 2024 Municipal Officer Elections in Sandoval County, municipal clerks can take a breath and look at the numbers.

Most of the incorporated municipalities in Sandoval County held their officer elections on March 5, but some are still in the process.

Recounts and runoff elections will take place after county commissioners hold a special meeting to canvass the votes and certify the election at 1 p.m. on Friday, March 15.

The purpose of the canvass is to ensure that every valid vote is included in the election totals by accounting for every ballot cast.

"You can make a difference, a big difference when you vote in a municipal election," said Bernalillo Town Clerk Ida Fierro.

The municipalities that had elections last week were Bernalillo, Rio Rancho, Jemez Springs and Cuba—all chose to opt out of the New Mexico Local Election Act (LEA).

Opting out of the LEA means municipal officer elections take place in March of every even-numbered year and are handled by the municipal clerk. If they choose to participate in the LEA, elections will occur in November of every

— See BABY BOX on page 2

— See DEMOCRACY on page 2

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— **BABY BOX** from page 1

Bernalillo ordinance, the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 requires CYFD to “make reasonable efforts to determine whether the infant” is Native American.

“If it is a Native American child, then CYFD has somebody who would contact the pueblo that the child is from and offer adoption to that pueblo first,” said Legendre at the meeting.

Monica Kesley, founder and CEO of Safe Haven Baby Boxes, told KOB that she hadn’t originally considered the reunification law, but that she hopes to change the state law with the help of state legislators.

There are currently baby boxes in Española, Belen, Alamogordo, Roswell, Carlsbad and Hobbs. The Edgewood Commission voted earlier this year to install a baby box at the county fire station.

At the March 25 regular meeting, the council will vote on the final ordinance.

**How to participate**

The next Town Council meeting is set for Monday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at Town Hall located at 829 Camino del Pueblo.

— **DEMOCRACY** from page 1

odd-numbered year and will be managed by the county clerk, who is responsible for covering the costs. The Village of Corrales holds its election in November.

**Rio Rancho**

The City of Rio Rancho will have a runoff election on April 9 for Districts 1 and 6 because neither candidate in the two districts received a majority of the votes cast, which is required by the city’s charter. In District 1, the runoff will be between former Rio Rancho Mayor Jim Owen and businesswoman Deborah S. Dapson. In District 6, the runoff election will be between Nicole Dahn List and Edward Lynn Paulsgrove.

Early voting for the runoff election will take place from March 27 to April 6. Election Day voting is on April 9. According to Rio Rancho City Clerk Rebecca Martinez, Rio Rancho was not eligible to opt into the LEA because the city requires a photo ID to vote.

The voter turnout numbers are not yet available but Martinez said the turnout for officer elections was about 9 percent in 2020 and 9.9 percent in 2016. The mayoral election in 2022 had a 14 percent turnout and

the 2018 election was 16 percent.

The cost of this year’s election is currently unknown. However, the 2022 Municipal Officer Election cost \$163,438.674 and the runoff cost \$37,422.57.

Voters can register at an Early Voting or Election Day voting location where same-day voter registration or registration updating will be available. Additional details regarding the Runoff Election can be found at [rrnm.gov/rrvotes](http://rrnm.gov/rrvotes).

**Bernalillo**

The Town of Bernalillo will not know if a recount is necessary until the County Commission meets.

According to Fierro, the town opted out of the LEA because, “The governing body just basically wants to do their own elections.”

Voter turnout in Bernalillo was higher than in most places in the county with 585 voters.

“It wasn’t a mayoral election, it was just for the two council seats and the judgeship,” said Fierro. “That’s pretty good for a small community.”

About 800 voters turned out for the 2022 mayoral election. This year’s election cost the town about \$20,000, which included \$7,000 for the Dominion voting machines and an additional \$4,200 for the recount.

**Cuba**

The Village of Cuba is also awaiting the canvass to determine if there will be a recount. The Secretary of State’s website indicates that a recount is possible in Cuba.

According to Village Clerk Vandora Casados, the town chose to opt out of the LEA so that they could run their own elections. However, they have decided to opt in for the upcoming state election in two years, which means that the county will handle all of their election requirements.

The turnout in Cuba was low and Casados speculates it was because only council positions were on the ballot. She believes 2026 will have a better turnout. This election cost the village about \$6,000.

**Jemez Springs**

The Village of Jemez Springs opted out of the LEA because the council did not think it was viable, said Heather Gutierrez, the interim village clerk. The village elected a mayor and three trustees.

The village saw 62 voters, which was close to the same turnout in the last November election, according to Gutierrez.

She said the election cost the village \$20,000 and noted if the village opted into the LEA, “it would have been free.”



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Meetings Schedule

SANDOVAL COUNTY

Planning and Zoning Board

Mar. 26, 6 p.m.

Rio Rancho City Hall

Governing Body

Mar. 28, 6 p.m.

Rio Rancho City Hall

Sandoval County Commission

Mar. 27, 6 p.m.

Sandoval County Chambers

1500 Idalia Rd., Building D

Planning and Zoning Commission

Apr. 9, 4:30 p.m.

Sandoval County Chambers

1500 Idalia Rd., Building D

Sandoval County Commission

Apr. 10, 6 p.m.

Sandoval County Chambers

1500 Idalia Rd., Building D

BERNALILLO

Town Council

Mar. 25, 6:30 p.m.,

Bernalillo Town Hall

Town Council

Apr. 8, 6:30 p.m.,

Bernalillo Town Hall

VILLAGE OF JEMEZ SPRINGS

Village Council

Mar. 20, 6 p.m.

Jemez Springs Bath House

Planning and Zoning Commission

Mar. 21, 6:30 p.m.

Josephine Shepard Memorial Municipal Building

RIO RANCHO

Parks and Recreation Commission

Mar. 18, 6 p.m.

Rio Rancho City Hall

Correction: Election Results

In the March 7 issue of the *Signpost*, we incorrectly reported James S. Baca won the Bernalillo Town Council set against Sharon Torres-Quintana. Philip Valverde and Sharon Torres-Quintana both won the open seats. Quintana-Torres had 354 votes and Valverde had 333 votes.

www.sandovalsignpost.com



# Buckle Up for the Placitas Petroglyphs Rally

By Jesse Jones, Sandoval Signpost

A unique road rally will take car lovers and explorers through Placitas next month.

The inaugural Placitas Petroglyphs Rally is scheduled for Saturday, April 13. The event is organized by the ALFA Romeo Owners Club of New Mexico and sponsored by Red Fox Realty.

This particular rally defies the typical expectations associated with a car rally. Unlike traditional events, there are no maps to guide competitors to the end of the course. And unlike many car events, it's not about speed, it's about exact timing.

Red Fox Realty Owner Rick DeVoss explains that the term, 'road rally' is a broad term and can be organized and executed in various ways. However, the basic definition of a road rally is a game played by adults on public roads where they drive at or below the posted speed limit.

"This is a type of gimmick rally," said DeVoss. "The challenge for the contestants is to count the signs they're seeing along the road and we've identified specific signs that they're supposed to look for."



Alpha Romeo Car Club (Photos courtesy Rick DeVoss)

The rally organizers created what they call, General Rally Rules (GRR).

Although it is a driving competition, the organizers have strict rules to ensure legal compliance. Participants are instructed to drive below the speed limit and there are mandatory pauses for 15 to 30 seconds to reduce average speeds.

Instead of reading a map, rally competitors are given fact statements

and definitions in advance to memorize, which they will need to recall while driving to get through the course.

"For example, if we use the abbreviation TL, that's referring to the traffic light. So if I tell you to pause or turn at a TL, you have to know what that means," says DeVoss.

The specific signs the competitors will look for have quotation marks in the GRR.

"For instance, when passing through Placitas, if I instruct you to 'look for "wildlife,"' you should search for a sign with the exact word 'wildlife' written on it. However, if the sign displays a picture of a wild horse, it doesn't count," clarified DeVoss.

Each car in the rally will consist of a two-person team — the driver and a navigator. DeVoss said they require both individuals to be adults due to liability concerns.

There is no entry fee for the rally and the only requirement to join is having a vehicle with at least four wheels.

The rally is scheduled to start at 10:05 a.m. on April 13 at the KFC located on Highway 550 in Bernalillo. The event will end at the Range Cafe located at 925 Camino Del Pueblo in Bernalillo. The majority of the rally will take place on the back roads of Placitas.

For information on how to enter the rally, contact Rick DeVoss, the Rallymaster at 817-300-6121.

There is no cap on how many cars can enter the rally, but organizers are prepared for 20 to 25 cars.

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# Sandoval County Receives Federal Funding for Renovation, Behavioral Health Projects

By Elizabeth McCall, Sandoval Signpost

Sandoval County received more than \$1 million for renovation and behavioral health projects from the \$62 million U.S. Sen. Ben Ray Luján secured for 74 New Mexico projects.

The county received \$850,000 for the El Zocalo-Sena Building Renovation Project, which was also secured by U.S. Rep. Melanie Stansbury and \$200,000 for a Behavioral Health Planning Grant. According to Katherine Schneider, spokesperson for Luján, these projects are reviewed based on eligibility and community impact.

The El Zocalo Plaza in Bernalillo, built in 1874, translates to “the meeting place” and is used as an event venue. According to Sandoval County Manager Wayne Johnson, the Sena building, part of the El Zocalo complex, has been renovated on the outside but the building still has dirt floors.

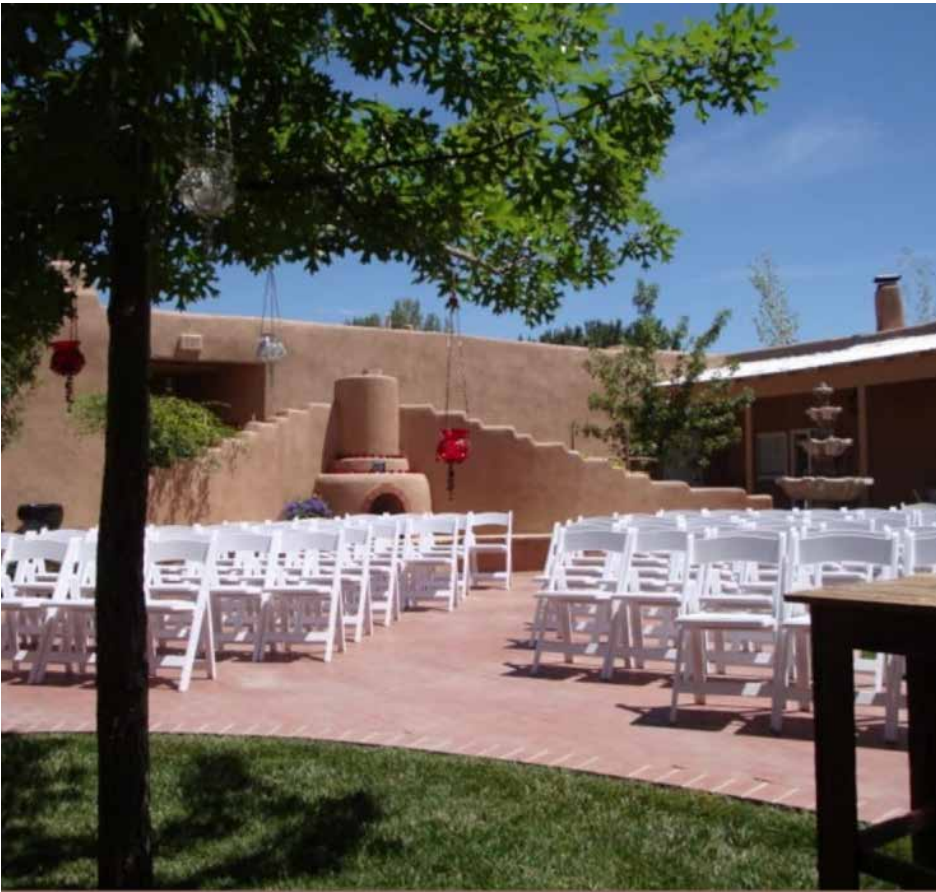
Johnson said the funding will be used to install new flooring and features to make it an ADA-accessible

meeting space for community events. Stansbury said these community-based projects are priorities of the community members.

“We worked directly with the community and they made the request to help revitalize the historic building so it could be used for economic development in the downtown area of Bernalillo, creating space for community activities and for commercial activity,” Stansbury said.

The county is still developing its approach for the Behavioral Health Planning Grant. Sandoval County Commissioner Katherine Bruch said she hopes the county’s community health programs can use this funding to address mental health and reduce substance abuse.

U.S. Sen. Martin Heinrich also secured \$114 million for 82 New Mexico projects, including \$375,000 for Santa Ana Pueblo to build a garage and vehicle maintenance facility to house Pueblo emergency vehicles, school buses, and other vehicles.



Zocalo Plaza, Bernalillo NM (Courtesy Sandoval County, NM)

LOG ENTRY #256

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Competitors shown are subject to change. © 2023 Feld Motor Sports, Inc.

# Community Briefs

By Sandoval Signpost Staff

**Artists and Crafters Needed!**

ARTNM! will be returning to Rio Rancho on Apr. 13 and they are looking for local artists to display and sell their work. There is no fee to be a part of this show. The show will be on Apr. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Atrium of the Sandoval County Administrative Building. To register for this art show visit [rr-cc.org](http://rr-cc.org).



(Getty Images)

**Medieval and Traditional Ballads**

Scott and Johanna Hongell-Darse are making their way to Bernalillo to perform some medieval and traditional ballads. The pair’s wanderings have led them from Finland and Iowa, through Europe, Scandinavia, India and the U.S. On the way, they have picked up tales and songs that they perform together with stories behind each of them. Their performances have been described as magical, inspiring, haunting and mesmerizing. The performance will be held on Mar. 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Martha Liebert Public Library. The event is free, but attendees are encouraged to RSVP by calling (505) 867-1440.

**Prescription Drug Take Back**

The Town of Bernalillo Community Development working in conjunction with the Bernalillo Police Dept. will host two Prescription Drug Take-Back Days. The first one will be held on Apr. 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bernalillo Police Department located at 739 Camino del Pueblo. The second event will be held in October. The Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of unused or expired prescription medication. Any unused or expired prescription medications will be accepted with “no questions asked.”

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# Feds, State Fund Wildland Fire Management, Firefighters and Smokey Bear

Drought maps colored in cheerful red, orange and gold are anything but cheerful in their meaning. They confirm what ranchers already know, that it's painfully dry here. Devastating wildfires in West Texas add an exclamation point.

If there's any good news it's that Congress and the Legislature are more attuned to the reality of fire.

The spending bill that just passed Congress includes more for wildland fire management. In fact, the online Source New Mexico reported it was a priority in the bill, according to summaries from both Senate Democrats and House Republicans.

The Wildland Fire Management program of the U.S. Forest Service will receive \$2.3 billion, a \$1.37 billion increase. And wildland firefighters will keep the pay increase that was passed in the 2021 infrastructure law.

State lawmakers this year approved funding for firefighter recruiting and training and new facilities.

New Mexico has upwards of 300 fire departments, and more than half of them operate with volunteers, according to the Department of Finance and Administration. We don't have enough permanent firefighters or volunteers. The fund will help convert volunteer positions to full-time positions, strengthening fire departments in rural areas and reducing the need for volunteers.

"Right now we're losing volunteers throughout the state and at a rapid pace," State Fire Marshal Randy Varela told the online NM Political Report. "So, what we're trying to do is not push the volunteers off, but we're trying to bring up paid personnel in the rural areas." He explained that volunteer firefighters, who have day jobs and families, can't always respond quickly.

DFA says that increasing the number of certified firefighters would reduce response times and improve public safety in rural areas.

Capital outlay this year tells a similar story. Fire departments usually get their share of public project money, but this year I see a lot of money devoted to training.

This year's bill includes \$3 million for a regional fire training academy and firefighter memorial in northern New Mexico. There's \$14 million for hotshot crew facilities in San Miguel and Socorro counties, as well as vehicles and equipment for wildland firefighting, and \$5 million for watershed restoration and wildfire protection improvements, including forest thinning, statewide.

Hobbs will receive \$1,424,000 for training facilities, including a fire training tower and public safety center. Money will also flow for fire training in Farmington, Ruidoso, Deming, El Rito, Española and Corrales.

Finally, our home-grown hero Smokey Bear will get his own license plate after the governor, who vetoed the bill last year, and certain members of the press carped about legislators wasting time. Maybe it wasn't as compelling as crime or education, but nowhere in legislative news coverage did we learn this year is

Smokey's 80th anniversary.

The Albuquerque Journal carried a story after the session explaining that the Forest Service began using a bear mascot in 1944. In 1950 firefighters found a tiny cub with scorched feet clinging to a tree in Lincoln County. When it was clear the little bruin would survive, state Game and Fish Department employees started calling him Smokey. He became a popular attraction at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. On his death, he was returned to Capitan for burial. The town is home to the state Smokey Bear Historical Park.

I have some personal history with Smokey. When El Malpais Conservation Area Visitors Center held its opening celebration in 1991, my role was to wear a Smokey costume and greet visitors. Kids didn't just want to see Smokey, they wanted to hug him, so Smokey dispensed hugs. I'd grown up with the baritone "Only YOU can prevent forest fires" but hadn't appreciated how much Smokey is loved. A tip of the iconic felt Smokey hat to sponsor Rep. Harlan Vincent, R-Glencoe, for seeing the bill through.

## All She Wrote



Sherry Robinson



## Sunlight is the best disinfectant.

March 10-16 is Sunshine Week, a nationwide effort to remind us all of the importance of your right to know.

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NMFOG is here for anyone having issues trying to access public information; information that belongs to you and is essential to a working democracy. During Sunshine Week, join us in being vigilant as lawmakers consider changes to our strong public access laws. This is not a partisan issue. When government does its business behind closed doors, everyone suffers.

So catch some sunlight this week, and together we can bring 365 days of sunshine to New Mexico.

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# Cheers For Title IX and Women’s Sports

For me, one of the most exciting sports events in New Mexico is about to get underway – the high school basketball tournament! Prep basketball has long been a community event across New Mexico, from Dulce to Eunice to Belen to Taos to neighborhoods in Albuquerque.

Corner to Corner



Diane Denish

I grew up in Hobbs, where boy’s basketball was legendary. Coach Ralph Tasker was himself a legend and the first high school basketball coach nationwide to win 1,000 games. It was a family activity, a teenage activity, and eventually an adult activity for me. I have attended every state tournament with few exceptions since 1957. Next week I hope to go again to cheer on the Hobbs Eagles. What will be different this year is that I will be cheering for the Lady Eagles. That wouldn’t have happened any time before 1973.

Everything changed in 1972 when Title IX came along. Title IX was part of a landmark civil rights law passed in 1972 known as the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX updated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which banned several forms of discrimination in employment but made no mention of discrimination in education. Schools that received federal funding fell under the amendment. Once passed, schools receiving federal funding began to create opportunities for girls to participate in team sports: basketball, track, tennis, golf, swimming and more. That was a momentous change from the early days when girls could only play half-court intra-mural basketball and sit on the sidelines during track meets. Now 52 years later, we are reaping the benefits of these changes. The overall effect following the passage was a considerable increase in the number of female students participating in a variety of sports.

In a study in 2006, almost 35 years after Title IX, participation by women was up nine times in high schools and 450% in collegiate sports. Collegiate sports averaged eight different sports for women. The law also made it possible for more women to seek professional careers in sports. Today, 40% of the coaches in college women’s basketball are women. In 2023 for the first time, all four officials in the women’s NCAA Final Four game were women. As the sports media industry started to see the writing on the wall, the first women sportscasters began to emerge. In 1974 Phyllis George, Miss America in 1971, became a sportscasting pioneer. CBS hired George not to broadcast women’s sports but to broadcast for the National Football League. Today women keep setting records. In January Tara VanDerveer, the Stanford women’s coach, earned her 1,023rd victory, becoming the coach with the most wins in college basketball history – for men or

women. When she was in high school, she wasn’t allowed to play on a basketball team. And Caitlin Clark, of the University of Iowa, on March 3 became the all-time leading scorer – male or female – in NCAA Division 1 basketball. She surpassed the record held by Pete Maravich. Five days later, another day, another record. She shattered Stephen Curry’s record for the most three-pointers in a season. In New Mexico, the high school basketball tournament begins with a full roster of women’s teams in every district. Our four-year schools all have women’s basketball teams and other programs. Sally Marquez, who lived through the onset of Title IX, is the first woman executive director of the New Mexico Activities Association, which oversees the tournament activities about to begin. Thanks to Title IX, I’ll be in The Pit at UNM in just a few days cheering on Hobbs’ Eagles once again. But this time it’s the Lady Eagles. Thank you, Title IX, for making it all possible.





The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 "\_\_\_ we forget"

5 Salon service, briefly

9 Water park feature

14 Initial chip

15 Fever with chills

16 Former Russian leader

17 Tech support caller

18 Not too bright

20 Palace figures

22 Intrepid

23 Macho dude

24 Luxury watchmaker

25 Of the Vatican

27 Storage medium

30 West African country

33 De Niro's "Goodfellas" co-star

36 Gardner of film

37 Payback seeker

39 Piece keeper?

41 Faddish disk of the '90s

42 Forest worker

44 Composes

45 Credit card motion

47 Washing machine cycle

49 Defame

52 Macaroni shape

56 Religious offering

58 Sandwich meat

59 Whip

61 Kind of tea

62 Baby-to-be

63 Landfill emanation

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64 NASA scrub

65 Word with tooth or heart

66 Part of A.P.R.

67 Chew like a squirrel

10 Good as new

11 Review unfairly

12 No-win situations?

13 Stopping points

19 Stetson, e.g.

21 Paternity identifier

24 Terrier type

26 Court statement

28 Place to broil

29 Big name in candy

30 Navigator's aids

31 State confidently

32 Lay down the law?

34 "A League of \_\_\_ Own"

35 Conflicted

38 Part of G.O.A.T.

40 Grade school subject

43 1980s invasion site

46 Deadly epidemic

48 Deep blue

50 Zippo

51 Great sadness

53 Breakfast strip

54 Last Greek letter

55 Lehar operetta "The Merry \_\_\_"

56 Rubs out

57 "Black \_\_\_" (2021 Marvel movie)

58 Very dry

60 Day care candidate

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Solution to Crossword:

Legal Notice

Notice to Creditors

In the matter of the estate of Jan E. Marfyak, deceased, late of Rio Rancho, NM, who passed away on 09 December 2023.

All creditors and claimants are hereby notified that they must present their claims within 30 days from the date of this notice.

The executor of the probate is Amber Gray-Fenner. Any inquiries or claims should be directed to PO Box 66613, Albuquerque NM 87193.

Further information regarding the estate's assets and outstanding debts can be obtained from the executor.

Dated: 01 March 2024

Amber Gray-Fenner  
Executor  
PO Box 66613  
Albuquerque NM 87193

Legal Notice

SSCAFCA Board of Directors  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
March 21, 2024 at 9:00AM  
1041 Commercial Dr. SE  
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

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EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

Comedy

Samuel J Comroe \$25-\$30 7-8:30 pm  
Quezada’s Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star  
54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana  
Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

Music

Bad Habit & The Enablers 6-9 pm The  
Hopper Pub & Pizzaria 4500 Arrowhead  
Ridge Dr SE, Rio Rancho

Lisa Litman Band 7:30-9:30 pm Casa Vieja  
Brewery 4541 Corrales Rd, Corrales

MercyMe Always Only Jesus \$30-\$82 7-10  
pm Rio Rancho Events Center 3001 Civic  
Center Cir NE, Rio Rancho

Silver Crow Asylum 7-9 pm The Range Cafe  
925 S Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo

The Shamrock Gala w/ DJ Kaleido 7-10 pm  
Tractor Brewing Westside 5720 McMahon  
Blvd NW bldg 5 ste a, Albuquerque

**Daily:** The Mayor Hull Show. Go to [rrmm.gov/mayorhullshow](http://rrmm.gov/mayorhullshow). Rio Rancho Mayor Gregg Hull talks about issues facing Rio Rancho.

**Daily:** Recreating at Valles Caldera National Preserve. The park landscape remains open to vehicles along NM-4 and pedestrian/bicycle access along trails, as designated. For a complete list of activities at the National Preserve, go to [tonps.gov/vall/index.htm](http://tonps.gov/vall/index.htm).

**Mondays:** Bernalillo/Placitas open Al-Anon meeting for families and friends of alcoholics/problem drinkers. 7:30-8:30. Held at the Bernalillo United Methodist Church, 136 Calle Don Andres (behind Abuelitas), Bernalillo. Maximum: 12 people; masks required. Info: 262-2177.

**Second Monday:** Eastern Sandoval Citizens Association (ESCA) monthly meeting. 4 p.m. Held at the Placitas Community Library.

**Second and fourth Mondays:** Bernalillo Town Council meeting. 6:30 p.m. Held at Bernalillo Town Hall. Info: call 867-3311, [townofbernalillo.org](http://townofbernalillo.org).

**Mondays through Saturdays:** Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in Bernalillo. For a complete list of schedules, visit the website at [albuquerqueaa.org](http://albuquerqueaa.org) or call Central Office at 266-1900, open 24/7.

**First Tuesdays:** Albuquerque Newcomers’ Club Welcome Coffee. 10 a.m. Held at Sandia Presbyterian Church (not affiliated with church)—10704 Paseo del Norte. Membership is open to residents who have lived in the Albuquerque area (including Sandoval County) for five years or less, or who are having major changes in their lives. Make new friends and increase your social life. Sign up for monthly luncheons and speakers, dining out, visits to area attractions, book and movie groups, bridge, bunco, mah-jongg, walking, wine tastings, etc. Singles’ and men’s groups. [abqnewcomers@gmail.com](mailto:abqnewcomers@gmail.com). 321-6970.

**First Tuesdays:** Coronado Kennel Club meeting. 7:30 p.m. All-breed kennel club. Schedule changes in August and December. Call 867-4510 for meeting location.

**First Tuesday:** Monthly ice cream social hosted by the Kiwanis Club. 6 p.m. Held at the Paleta Bar in Bernalillo—510 NM Highway 528.

**Third Tuesday:** Open meeting of the Sandia Vista Amateur Radio Club. 7 p.m. Held at Fire Station 41 on highway 165, just east of the Placitas Community Library. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings, whether or not they have an FCC License.

**Third Tuesdays:** Bead Society of New Mexico (BSNM) Monthly Membership Meeting. 6-8 p.m. We do not meet in July or December. Please check our website in case of occasional changes. Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 8600 Academy Road NE. For more information, go to [beadsocietyNM.org](http://beadsocietyNM.org).

**Third Tuesdays:** Monthly meeting of the Republican Party of Sandoval County (RPSC). 7 p.m. at Gospel Light Baptist Church, 1500 Southern Boulevard in Rio Rancho. SandovalGOP.com.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

Art Openings

Colores de Mexico: The Art of Magical  
Realism - Exhibit Opening 10 am-5 pm  
Placitas Community Library 453 Hwy. 165,  
Placitas, 87043

Class / Workshop

Bird Feeder Craft 10-11 am Corrales  
Community Library 84 W. La Entrada,  
Corrales

Comedy

Samuel J Comroe \$25-\$30 7-8:30 pm  
Quezada’s Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star  
54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana  
Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

Samuel J Comroe \$25-\$30 9-10:30 pm  
Quezada’s Comedy Club at Santa Ana Star  
54 Jemez Canyon Dam Road, Santa Ana  
Pueblo, Santa Ana Pueblo, 004

Markets

Cabazon Park’s Shop Local Market 10 am-3  
pm Cabazon Community Center and Park  
2307 Cabazon Blvd. SE, Rio Rancho

**Third Tuesdays:** Sandia Vista Amateur Radio Club. 7 p.m. Help provide emergency communications in Placitas. Become a “HAM” radio operator. We will help you get your FCC license. Visitors welcome. Held at the Placitas Fire Station No. 41, Hwy 165, near the Library. [sandiavista.net](http://sandiavista.net).

**Fourth Tuesdays:** Pathways: Wildlife Corridors of NM monthly meeting. 6:30 p.m. Held at Placitas Community Center. Open to the public. [pathwayswc.wordpress.com](http://pathwayswc.wordpress.com).

**Fourth Tuesdays:** Eastern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority (ESCAFCA) meeting. 6 p.m. Held in the Town of Bernalillo Council Chambers. Persons wishing to be on the agenda or persons with disabilities who need accommodations should call 771-7110 by the first Tuesday. Board meeting agenda is posted on the ESCAFCA website ([escafc.com](http://escafc.com)) and at the front desk of the Town Hall by Friday preceding the meeting.

**Fourth Tuesdays:** Placitas Democrats and Friends. 6-7:30 p.m. Held at Placitas Community Library. Meetings are open to the public and feature candidates for local, state, national offices; [sandovaldemocrats.org](http://sandovaldemocrats.org). 259-5860.

**Tuesdays:** Haven House Domestic Violence Support Group for women whose lives have been touched by domestic violence. 6:30-8:00 p.m. Topics include: Dynamics of Domestic Violence, Safety Plans, Developing Healthy Relationships, and information about available services. All sessions are confidential and free of charge. Held at Rio Rancho First Baptist Church, corner of Route 528 and 19th Avenue. 896-4869 or 1-800-526-7157.

**Tuesday and Thursday:** Sandoval County Historical Society is open. 9-noon. Photo Archive, Library, and Family Research. Located between Warrior gas station and Santa Ana Star casino on US 550.

**Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays:** Play Pickleball. 1 p.m. Pickleball is a game played on a court with paddles and a whiffle ball. The court is smaller than a tennis court and allows people to play who no longer want to run and jump as they did in their younger years. Anyone can play, even if they have never played tennis. Info: 505-934-2649. At Bernalillo Recreation Center.

**Second Tuesdays:** Coronado Optimist Club of Bernalillo. 6 p.m. Held at 149 E Calle Don Francisco in Bernalillo. “Bringing out the best in kids” 505-867-4689.

**Wednesdays:** Boy Scout meetings. 7 p.m. 237 Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo. In front of Loretto Park. 505-506-2773.

**Wednesdays:** Rotary Club of Rio Rancho Sunrise. 7 a.m. For breakfast, fellowship, a great speaker, and a chance to get involved in local and worldwide service projects. At Club Rio Rancho (used to be Chamisa Hills CC), 500 Country Club Drive, Rio Rancho. Info: Mac McKinney, 892-4313.

**First Wednesdays:** Free civil legal clinic offered. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Held in the third-floor conference room

Music

Dirt Cheap 7:30-9:30 pm Casa Vieja Brewery  
4541 Corrales Rd, Corrales

Lil Wayne \$64-\$174 8-11:30 pm Rio Rancho  
Events Center 3001 Civic Center Cir NE, Rio  
Rancho

St. Patrick’s Day Tunes w/ Ancient Bones  
7-9:30 pm Tractor Brewing Westside  
5720 McMahon Blvd NW bldg 5 ste a,  
Albuquerque

Syd Masters 7-9 pm The Range Cafe 925 S  
Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

Class / Workshop

Sandia Mountain Workshop Event with Dirk  
Van Hart 2-3 pm Sandoval County Historical  
Society 151 Edmund Rd., Bernalillo

Discussion / Lecture

Corrales Historical Society Speaker Series:  
Nancy Bartlit Presents Oppenheimer Back in  
Los Alamos 2-3 pm Old San Ysidro Church  
966 Old Church Rd, Corrales

of the Second District Courthouse, at the southwest corner of Lomas and Fourth, NW. Free legal advice on a number of civil legal issues. No family law services will be offered. Attendance is limited to the first 25 persons who qualify for low-income assistance. Interpreters and bilingual attorneys will be on hand. Attendees should bring all of their paperwork. Expect about a thirty-minute, free legal consultation. 797-6077.

**Second Wednesdays:** Visionary Arts & Crafts Guild (VACG) monthly membership meeting. 6-8 p.m. VACG’s mission is to develop a fellowship among craftspeople and facilitate a market for crafts. The VACG supports the “Art of Craft” through exhibitions, education, and public awareness to promote the development and appreciation of craftspeople and their work. Meets all months except October, November, and December. Info: [vacgnm@gmail.com](mailto:vacgnm@gmail.com), [facebook.com/vacgnm](https://facebook.com/vacgnm), VACGNM.com.

**Second Wednesdays:** Rio Rancho Art Association (RRAA) monthly membership meeting. 6:30-8:30 p.m. RRAA is a non-juried/all mediums regional art association. You need not be a resident of Rio Rancho to join. Held in Don Chalmer’s Ford Community Room, 2500 Rio Rancho Boulevard, Rio Rancho. [rraausa.org](http://rraausa.org), [rioranchoartassociation.blogspot.com](http://rioranchoartassociation.blogspot.com) or 301-2009.

**Second and fourth Wednesdays:** Sandoval County Civitans meet. 6:00 p.m. Held at Fair Winds, 920 Riverview Drive SE, Rio Rancho. 898-6884.

**Second and fourth Wednesdays:** Sandoval County Commission meeting. 6 p.m. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will be held in the Sandoval Administration Building, 1500 Idalia Road Building D, Bernalillo. Info or meeting agenda: [sandovalcounty.com](http://sandovalcounty.com), 867-7500.

**Third Wednesdays:** Las Placitas Association meets in person. 6 p.m. Visitors are welcome. Email: [theboard@lasplacitas.org](mailto:theboard@lasplacitas.org) for an invitation and further details.

**Thursdays:** Sandoval County Historical Society archives and library are open to members and the public for family research. 9 a.m.-Noon. Bernalillo. Info: 867-2755.

**First Thursdays:** Sandoval County veteran’s outreach and business counseling. 1-4 p.m. Held at the Sandoval County Administrative Building, 1500 Idalia Road in Bernalillo. All honorably- discharged veterans may be entitled to VA benefits and state Veteran benefits. Come learn about your potential benefits. Bring your DD-214. 383-2414.

**First Thursdays:** Art and Music at the Loma Colorado Main Library Auditorium, Rio Rancho. Info: [riorancholibraries.org](http://riorancholibraries.org), 505-891-5013.

**Third Thursdays:** Placitas Community Library Board of Directors meetings. At the Placitas Community Library, 453 Hwy 165. 6:30 p.m. Open to the public. Meeting agendas are posted at the library and Placitas Post Office.

**Fourth Thursdays:** Sandoval County Development Planning & Zoning Commission. 6 p.m. Held at the Sandoval County Administration Building, 1500 Idalia Road., Bldg. D, Bernalillo.

Do Good

2024 New Mexico Firefighters & Friends  
Shave Event 11 am-1 pm Rio Rancho Events  
Center 3001 Civic Center Cir NE, Rio  
Rancho

Music

Los Radiators 7:30-9:30 pm Casa Vieja  
Brewery 4541 Corrales Rd, Corrales

Sports

New Mexico Runners vs. Wichita Wings \$13  
3-5:30 pm Rio Rancho Events Center 3001  
Civic Center Cir NE, Rio Rancho

MONDAY, MARCH 18

Games

Singo Music Bingo 7-9 pm Brew Lab 101  
3301 Southern Blvd. SE, Rio Rancho

Trivia! With Trivia Mafia 6-9 pm Ex Novo  
Brewing 4895 Corrales Rd, Corrales

**Last Thursdays:** Sandoval County veteran’s outreach and business counseling. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Held at 433 Meadowlark SE in Rio Rancho. All honorably-discharged veterans may be entitled to VA benefits and state Veteran benefits. Come learn about your potential benefits. Bring your DD-214. 383-2414.

**Fridays:** Sandoval County Stroke Support Group. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Provides weekly support to survivors of stroke, their caregivers, adult family members, health care providers. Water & light snacks provided. No charge for meetings. Social outings arranged six times/year. Contact Geri: 620-8802.

**First Fridays:** Monthly luncheon of the Democratic Party of Sandoval County. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Range Cafe in Bernalillo, 925 Camino del Pueblo. Sandoval Democrats gather once a month (most months) to welcome speakers, candidates, and government representatives. You pay for your lunch from the menu, or come for just the meeting. [sandovaldemocrats.org](http://sandovaldemocrats.org).

**Third Friday:** Luncheon of the San-Bern Federation of Republican Women. Starts at 11:00 a.m. Held at Pelican’s East or West 9800 Montgomery Blvd NE Albuquerque, NM 87111 and 10022 Coors Blvd NW Albuquerque, NM 87114. Contact Jeanette Nowers-Clark at 505-321-9189 [Sanbernfrw1@gmail.com](mailto:Sanbernfrw1@gmail.com) or [Sanbernfrw.org](http://Sanbernfrw.org).

**Saturdays:** Los Ranchos Growers’ Market. 8-11 a.m. Local farmers offer fresh produce, greens, eggs, fruit, honey, jams/jellies, baked goods, jerky, grass-fed beef, seedlings/plants, flowers, and more. Hot food vendors in attendance as well. Held in Village of Los Ranchos, in Tennis Court Parking Lot, 6718 Rio Grande Boulevard. Free and vendors accept WIC/Senior discounts. [Montoya4664@hotmail.com](mailto:Montoya4664@hotmail.com), 610-9591, or Los Ranchos Growers’ Market on Facebook.

**Saturdays:** Casa Rosa Pantry. Open 9-11 a.m. Held in the pink house east of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church at 640 Highway 165, six miles east of I-25. Community outreach program provides nonperishable food items as well as dairy, frozen meats, and fresh produce as available for Placitas residents in need. Donations, volunteers welcome.

**Third Saturdays:** Rio Rancho Northwest Mesa NAACP meets “Virtual.” Public is invited.

**Third Saturday:** Monthly meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). 11 a.m. Held at the Don Newton Community Center, 4900 Kachina Street NW, in Albuquerque. All are welcome. [rrnaacp.org](http://rrnaacp.org)

**Second Sundays:** Second Sunday Studio Shows. 5 p.m. Live Acoustic Music. Suggested Donation: \$20. Sponsored by Solamente Natural Plaster. Contact: Kent 205-6010, [kent@solamentenaturalplaster.com](mailto:kent@solamentenaturalplaster.com).

**Second Sundays:** Placitas Cannabis Cultivators Club. 3-5 p.m. Experienced or novice growers welcome. Group is designed to help anyone who wants to grow cannabis do it better. Donations accepted; not required. Contact: 373 8860, [luckylouabq@gmail.com](mailto:luckylouabq@gmail.com), [meetup.com](http://meetup.com) (Placitas Cannabis Cultivators Club, Placitas, NM).



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**SEEKING HOME/CASITA TO RENT** Seeking home/casita to rent in Bernalillo, Corrales, Rio Rancho area. Mature professional semi-retired male. Non-smoker, non-drinker. Crate trained dogs. Seeking home/casita to rent. References available. Contact via email: [aenriquez4561@gmail.com](mailto:aenriquez4561@gmail.com)

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# "SHE SAVED MY LIFE"

Albuquerque resident Dawn R. had been experiencing the painful side effects of Peripheral Neuropathy.  
**"My feet and legs were extremely painful and my doctor told me there was nothing they could do.  
That I would have to take Gabapentin for the rest of my life."**  
Then she met Albuquerque's very own Dr. Andrea Brogdon

Peripheral Neuropathy is the pain, discomfort and numbness caused by nerve damage of the peripheral nervous system. Dawn explained that daily tasks like opening doors and using the bathroom were overwhelmingly painful. "How can you live for the next 30 years when you don't even want to get out of bed to do simple things?"

She was experiencing the burning, numbness, tingling and sharp pains that those suffering with neuropathy often describe. "The way that I would describe it, it's equivalent to walking on glass." Dawn hadn't worn socks in five years and was wearing shoes two sizes too big so that nothing would 'touch' her feet.

**Unfortunately Dawn's story is all too familiar for over 3 million people in the U.S. suffering from Peripheral Neuropathy.**

If you're unfortunate enough to be facing the same disheartening prognosis you're not sleeping at night because of the burning in your feet. You have difficulty walking, shopping or doing any activity for more than 30 minutes because of the pain. You're struggling with balance and living in fear that you might fall. Your doctor told you to 'just live with the pain' and you're taking medications that aren't working or have uncomfortable side effects.

Fortunately, four months ago Dawn read an article about Dr. Andrea Brogdon and the work she was doing to treat those suffering from

Peripheral Neuropathy, without invasive surgeries or medications.

Dr. Brogdon, founder of AAIM | Albuquerque Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine, is using the tested science of acupuncture and a technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

**"Now when I go to bed at night I don't have those shooting pains. I don't have that burning sensation. I don't have pain coming up my legs," Dawn enthusiastically describes life after receiving Dr. Brogdon's treatments.  
"I can wear socks and shoes!"**

Dawn and her sister now operate a successful dog walking business, sometimes covering up to 5 miles a day.

**"It's life altering.  
As far as I'm concerned  
Dr. Brogdon saved my life!"**

Dr. Brogdon is helping the senior community using the most cutting edge and innovative integrative medicine. Specializing in chronic pain cases, specifically those that have been deemed 'hopeless' or 'untreatable', she consistently generates unparalleled results.

What was once a missing link in senior healthcare is now easily accessible to the residents of Albuquerque.

If you've missed too many tee times because of pain or you've passed on dancing because you're afraid of falling, it's time to call Dr. Brogdon and the staff at AAIM.

**It's time you let your golden years BE GOLDEN!**

Dr. Brogdon is now accepting new patients but only for a limited time. In an effort to protect her patients, both current and future, she has made the difficult decision to limit the number of patients seen in her clinic. Only 10 new neuropathy patients will be accepted before the end of June so call (505) 355-1984 now to schedule a consultation.



**PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY? 10400 Academy Rd NE Suite 210  
Call (505) 355-1984 Albuquerque, NM 87111  
to schedule a consultation! WWW.AAIM-ABQ.COM**